



House Budget Committee Chairman Rep. Paul Ryan, R-Wis., holds up a copy of the 2014 Budget Resolution as he speaks during a news conference on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

Ryan, GOP take aim at Dem spending plans

ANDREW TAYLOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republicans redoubled their efforts to roll back signature accomplishments of President Barack Obama on Tuesday, offering a slashing budget plan that would repeal new health care subsidies and cut spending across a wide swath of programs dear to Obama and his Democratic allies. The GOP plan was immediately rejected by the White House as an approach that “just doesn’t add up” and would harm America’s middle class. Obama has rebuffed similar plans two years in a row and ran

strongly against the ideas when winning re-election last year — when its chief author, Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan, R-Wis., was on the Republican ticket. Ryan’s budget illustrates the stark differences in the visions of tea party-backed Republicans and Obama and his Democratic allies about the size and role of government — with no obvious avenues for compromise. Senate Democrats are responding with a milder plan that would repeal automatic spending cuts that began to take effect earlier this month while offering \$100 billion in new spending for infrastruc-

ture and job training. The Democratic counter won’t be officially unveiled until Wednesday, but its rough outlines were described by aides. They spoke only on condition of anonymity because they weren’t authorized to describe it publicly. That plan by Senate Budget Committee Chairman Patty Murray, D-Wash., would raise taxes by almost \$1 trillion over a decade and cut spending by almost \$1 trillion over the same period. But more half of the combined deficit savings would be used to repeal the automatic, across-the-board spending cuts that began to hit the economy earlier this month and are

slated to continue through the decade.

All this was in the works as Obama trekked to the Capitol to join Senate Democrats for their weekly closed-door policy luncheon as part of his bipartisan outreach efforts to lawmakers in both House and Senate on the budget. Obama is pressing for a “grand bargain” that would attract more moderate elements from both parties — even as this week’s competing budget presentations are tailored to appeal strictly along party lines.

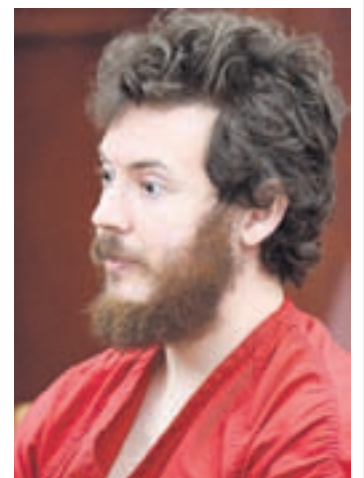
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Date Set For Holmes Trial

DAN ELLIOTT
N. RICCARDI

Associated Press

CENTENNIAL, Colorado (AP) — The judge in the deadly Colorado movie theater shooting case entered a not guilty plea on



James Holmes, Aurora shooting suspect, sits during his arraignment in Centennial, Colo., on Tuesday, March 12, 2013. (AP Photo/RJ Sangosti)

behalf of James Holmes on Tuesday after the former graduate student’s defense team said he was not ready to enter one.

If Holmes is convicted, he could be executed or spend the rest of his life in prison. Judge William Sylvester said Holmes can change his plea to not guilty by reason of insanity later, if he chooses.

Such a change could be the only way Holmes could avoid life in prison or execution.

Holmes, 25, is charged with 166 counts, mostly murder and attempted murder, in the July 20 attack on moviegoers at a midnight showing of “The Dark Knight Rises” in the Denver suburb of Aurora that killed 12 people and injured 70.

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Falklanders and Argentines trade post-vote barbs

PAUL BYRNE

Associated Press

STANLEY, Falkland Islands (AP) — Falkland Islanders are celebrating their referendum showing that 99.8 percent want the area to remain a British Overseas Territory.

Legislative Assembly Member Gavin Short said Tuesday that he hopes it sends a message to Argentine President Cristina Fernandez: "We have absolutely no desire to be ruled by the government in Buenos Aires. I hope that you now might respect that."

Not likely: Argentina's ambassador to London, Alicia Castro, said Tuesday that the vote was organized by and for the British just to claim the islands for Britain. And she said the wishes of a few hundred islanders are no match for "millions and millions and millions" of people who recognize Argentine sovereignty over the islands they claim as the Malvinas.

Castro spoke in a radio interview in Buenos Aires while the Falkland lawmakers spoke in Stanley. In Washington, the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama signaled that the vote would not change U.S. policy, which is to remain neutral in the territorial dispute between Buenos Aires and London. "The residents have clearly expressed their preference for a continued relationship with the United Kingdom," State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said. "That said, we obviously recognize there



Residents celebrate the results of the Referendum 2013 in Stanley, Falkland Islands, Tuesday, March 12, 2013. An overwhelming 99.8 percent of Falkland Islands voters have backed keeping their government just the way it is: a British Overseas Territory. Of the 1,517 valid votes cast, only 3 islanders voted "no" to the question: "Do you wish the Falkland Islands to retain their current political status as an Overseas Territory of the United Kingdom?" One vote was somehow lost, officials said Tuesday.

(AP Photo/Lorena Lucca, Clarin)

while the Falkland lawmakers spoke in Stanley. In Washington, the administration of U.S. President Barack Obama signaled that the vote would not

change U.S. policy, which is to remain neutral in the territorial dispute between Buenos Aires and London. "The residents have clearly expressed their preference

for a continued relationship with the United Kingdom," State Department spokeswoman Victoria Nuland said. "That said, we obviously recognize there

are competing claims. Our formal position has not changed. We recognize the de facto U.K. administration of the islands, but we take no position on sovereignty claims."

Nuland added that it is important for Britain and Argentina to constructively seek a resolution to their dispute.

Argentina has been insisting on such talks for years, and Britain has said it is willing, but only if the islanders have a seat at the table. And that's a deal-breaker for the Fernandez government. "It's not that we don't understand the islanders in their desire to ratify their identity: They're British and British law recognizes them as such. Argentina has no intention of changing their identity or their way of life, but the territory they inhabit isn't theirs. There is a right they do not have, which is to decide the destiny of our territory, or resolve this question of sovereignty," Castro told Radio Millenium. □

Snow ties up European planes, trains, roads

ANGELA CHARLTON

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — Frankfurt's airport closed, trains stopped running under the English Channel, and the French army was ordered to help clear roads — all because of a sudden dump of oddly late snowfall on Western Europe.

Less prepared for the kind of heavy snow that regularly hits northern and eastern neighbors, France, Germany, Britain and Belgium struggled Tuesday to keep moving amid the frosty, blustery conditions. Instead of enjoying the onset of spring, travelers shivered in stranded cars, packed onto icy train platforms, or languished in airport waiting halls. Thousands of schoolchildren stayed home. Tens of thousands of homes were without electricity.

Frankfurt airport, Europe's third busiest, closed at midday after recording about 12 centimeters (5 inches)

of snow. More than 355 flights had been canceled by mid-afternoon. The airport reopened one of its four runways only for takeoffs after a brief respite in the snowfall — but

after more than 100 cars and trucks crashed in a pileup near Muenzenberg. Police said dozens of people were injured but that no deaths were reported. At Paris' Orly Airport, a Tuni-



A tourist stands in front of Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany, Tuesday, March 12, 2013. As fresh snow fell in wide parts of western Germany, the airport in Frankfurt was closed after about 5 inches of snow and had already canceled more than 100 flights and reported many delays.

(AP Photo/Gero Breloer)

the snow then resumed. And it's unclear how much longer the other three runways would remain closed. North of Frankfurt, the A45 autobahn was shut down

sair jet skidded off the runway because of icy conditions, according to the airport authority. No one was injured, but the incident caused even further de-

lays at an airport that has suffered cancellations and problems all day. Air France — the country's largest passenger airline — warned via Twitter that anyone planning to travel to Europe or France via Paris on Tuesday should delay their trip.

Airport screens flashed with red warnings after the French civil aviation authority ordered about 300 flights — a quarter of the day's total — canceled out of Paris' Charles de Gaulle Airport. Other airports in northern France were closed, and Brussels' airport was operating on a single runway.

Service on the Eurostar trains that go under the English Channel was suspended mid-morning because severe weather in northern France and Belgium forced operators to close sections of the railway, said Eurostar spokeswoman Lucy Drake. As the snow continued to fall in

the afternoon, service was suspended for the rest of the day, Eurostar later confirmed on its website. Other high-speed train services around the region were also halted.

The French army was called in to help as civilian authorities struggled to clear roads and rescue people stuck in cars and buses on snowed-in roads, notably in Normandy, Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault said on RTL radio. With up to 50 centimeters (19 inches) of snow in some areas of northern France, the government urged people to stay home unless absolutely necessary.

The French housing ministry, meanwhile, said it will prolong until the end of March the winter-long ban on tenant evictions — owing to the biting weather conditions. Office buildings in the French capital — like those in Brussels, the European Union's capital — were only partly full. □

Black smoke from the chapel chimney signals no pope yet

NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Black smoke poured from the Sistine Chapel chimney on Tuesday, signaling that cardinals had failed on their first vote of the papal conclave to choose a new leader for the world's 1.2 billion Catholics and their troubled church. Surrounded by Michelangelo's imposing frescoes imagining the beginning and the end of the world, cardinals locked themselves into the chapel following a final appeal for unity to heal the divisions that have been exposed by Pope Benedict XVI's shocking resignation and revelations of corruption and mismanagement in the Vatican bureaucracy.

Led by prelates holding a crucifix and candles, the 115 scarlet-robed prelates chanted the Litany of Saints, the hypnotic Gregorian chant imploring the intercession of the saints to guide their voting, before the master of liturgical ceremonies intoned "Extra omnes" or "all out" and closed the heavy wooden doors.

Outside, thousands of people braved cold night rain and packed St. Peter's Square, eyes fixed on the narrow chimney poking out of the Sistine Chapel roof. They were rewarded some three hours after the conclave began when thick black smoke billowed out of the chimney, signal-

ing that no pope had been elected.

The cardinals now return to the Vatican hotel for the night and resume voting Wednesday morning.

Benedict XVI's surprise resignation has thrown the church into turmoil and exposed deep divisions among cardinals grappling with whether they need a manager to clean up the Vatican's dysfunctional bureaucracy or a pastor who can inspire Catholics at a time of waning faith and growing secularism.

The leading contenders for pope have fallen into one of the two camps, with Cardinal Angelo Scola, seen as favored by those hoping to shake up the powerful Vatican bureaucracy, and Brazilian Cardinal Odilo Scherer, favored by Vatican-based insiders who have defended the status quo. Other names included Canadian Cardinal Marc Ouellet, who heads the Vatican's powerful office for bishops, and U.S. Cardinal Timothy Dolan, the exuberant archbishop of New York.

Before Tuesday's conclave a Mass was held at St. Peter's Basilica for the general public and the cardinals. In an appeal, the dean of the College of Cardinals, retired Cardinal Angelo Sodano, called for unity within the church, asking the cardinal electors to put their differences aside for the good of the church and the future pope. □



Black smoke emerges from the chimney on the roof of the Sistine Chapel, in St. Peter's Square at the Vatican, Tuesday, March 12, 2013. The black smoke indicates that the new pope has not been elected yet.

(AP Photo/Gregorio Borgia)

Bookmakers: money's on an Italian pope

LONDON (AP) — Bookmakers in betting-mad Britain are cashing in on the Roman Catholic conclave to select a new pope. As cardinals began their deliberations at the Vatican on Tuesday, here's a look at the odds.

LEADING CONTENDERS

Cardinal Angelo Scola of Milan was leading the pack for many bookmakers. Ladbrokes had the Italian with odds of 2-1, while Paddy Power and William Hill both had him at 9-4.

"The money keeps coming for Scola and we've been forced to slash his odds," said Jessica Bridge of Ladbrokes. "The closer we get to the conclave, it's harder to see an outsider causing an upset." That helps explain why Paddy Power was taking bets that the next pope will hail from Italy at 1-1. From there the race gets convoluted, but a few names stand out. William Hill said its original favorite, Cardinal Francis Arinze of Nigeria, had fallen to odds of 40-1. The betting house now has Ghana's Cardinal Peter Turkson in second place with odds of 7-2 and Brazil's Cardinal Odilo Scherer third at 4-1.

LONG SHOTS

There's little agreement on which cardinals are the longest shots. But among non-cardinal "contenders" one name keeps popping up: U2's Bono, a rock 'n' roller known for his charitable works and political activism.

The singer is listed with odds of 1,000-1 at Paddy Power, Ladbrokes and William Hill. Other names out of left field include Italian soccer star Mario Balotelli and pop sensation Justin Bieber, who are listed at 2,500-1 and 10,000-1, respectively.

SPENDING

Bookmakers are taking in

People are also placing bets on how long it will take the cardinals to elect a pope. William Hill had Tuesday as the favorite, at 5-2, with 6-4 odds on Wednesday.

WHAT'S IN A NAME:

Paddy Power's second-largest pope-related market is for what name Bene-



Jessica Bridge, a spokesperson with a betting company, poses for members of the media, next to a board with odds regarding the possible new Pope, central London. Bookmakers in betting-mad Britain are cashing in on the Roman Catholic conclave to select a new pope as cardinals began their deliberations at the Vatican on Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/Letteris Pitarakis, File)

significant sums. Paddy Power said that since Pope Benedict XVI resigned, prognosticators have spent more than 500,000 pounds (\$743,122) speculating on his replacement. Ladbrokes said about 10,000 pounds has been staked, with the figure expected to rise if the voting drags on. William Hill said it has received bets in the "thousands" coming from more than 50 countries.

SPEAKING OF HOW LONG...

dict's successor will take — with Leo, Gregory and Pius among the most popular predictions. A 17th Benedict stood at a moderate 12-1; a first Pope Damian stood at 500-1.

STAR POWER AND PAYOFFS

Retired basketball legend Dennis Rodman — fresh off a trip to North Korea — was doing publicity for Paddy Power in a light-hearted "campaign" for Turkson to become the first black pope. □

What's in a Papal Name? A Lot

DANIELA PETROFF
Associated Press

VATICAN CITY (AP) — What's in a name? A lot if you are the next pope.

Every time a new pontiff is chosen in a conclave, a senior cardinal goes up to him and asks: "And by what name do you want to be called?"

The question is popped immediately, while all electors are still locked in the Sistine Chapel. So the winner had better have done

his homework and already picked a name.

Shortly after, the senior cardinal reads out the pontifical name in Latin from the main balcony of St. Peter's Basilica as part of the "Habemus Papam" — "We have a pope" — formula that proclaims the election of a new pope.

"The name the new pope chooses tells a lot about the thrust of his papacy," said Ambrogio Piazzoni, a church historian and vice-

prefect of the Vatican library. Benedict XVI, the German Joseph Ratzinger who stunned the world last month by announcing his retirement, told pilgrims at his first public audience in 2005 that he had chosen the name in order to be guided by the early 20th-century Pope Benedict XV. "In his footsteps I place my ministry, in the service of reconciliation and harmony between peoples," said Benedict. □

Ryan, GOP take aim at Dem spending plans

Continued from front

Obama meets with House Republicans on Wednesday. At issue is the arcane and partisan congressional budget process, which involves a unique, non-binding measure called a budget resolution.

When the process works as designed — which is rarely — budget resolutions have the potential to stake out parameters for follow-up legislation specifying spending and rewriting the complex U.S. tax code.

But this year's dueling GOP and Democratic budget proposals are more about defining political differences — as if last year's elections didn't do enough of that — than charting a path toward a solution.

"If you look at the two budgets, there's not a lot of overlap," said Rep. Chris Van Hollen of Maryland, top Democrat on the Budget Committee. He said the lack of "common ground" makes it necessary to make uncomfortable compromises.

One such compromise

might be to adopt a stingier inflation adjustment for Social Security cost-of-living increases and the indexing

negotiations chaired by Murray in the fall of 2010.

But this "chained CPI" idea is nowhere to be found in

"The president was pretty clear that there are pieces of the Social Security system he is willing to talk

books, which the measure would achieve by cutting \$756 billion over 10 years from the Medicaid health program for the poor and disabled, cutting deeply into the day-to-day budgets of domestic agencies and repealing new health coverage subsidies enacted two years ago with Obama's signature health care bill.

In last year's presidential campaign, Ryan ran against both Obama's promise to raise tax rates on the wealthy and more than \$700 billion worth of cuts to Medicare providers. But now, Ryan claims that money to help balance the budget — as well as about \$1 trillion in taxes over a decade passed by Democrats as part of Obama's health care overhaul.

"We're not going to re-fight the past, because we know that that's behind us," Ryan told reporters on Tuesday.

Ryan is moving on to a new battle over the annual cap for the 12 spending bills that Congress is supposed to pass each year.

His budget assumes that the \$1 trillion in savings over the coming nine years from controversial automatic spending cuts, just now starting, much of the money coming from the day-to-day agency budgets for the Pentagon and domestic agencies, will stay in effect.

Ryan, however, would restore those cuts to the Pentagon and instead makes domestic agencies absorb them.

This double-whammy means, for instance, that non-defense appropriations would be limited to \$414 billion next year — which is \$55 billion below the caps already mandated under the automatic cuts. That would likely mean gridlock when it comes time to advance appropriations bills this summer.

Ryan's plan promises to cut the deficit from \$845 billion this year to \$528 billion in the 2014 budget year that starts in October. □



A stack of President Barack Obama's healthcare regulations in Washington, March 12, 2013. (Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

of income tax brackets. House Speaker John Boehner, R-Ohio, pressed for the new inflation measure in both sets of his failed previous budget negotiations with Obama, and the idea was favorably discussed in the "supercommittee" ne-

ither the Ryan or Murray budgets. Obama did propose the idea in his meeting with Senate Democrats — but only as an element of a broader deficit-reduction pact in which Republicans would yield on approving new tax revenues.

about. But's he's going to need some give from Republicans, as we all are," said Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn.

Driving the House GOP plan is a promise to pass a budget that would balance the government's



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US man convicted in deadly Craigslist plot

T. J. SHEERAN

Associated Press

AKRON, Ohio (AP) — A self-styled U.S. street preacher accused in a deadly plot to lure men with Craigslist job offers and then rob them was found guilty of aggravated murder on Tuesday and could face the death penalty.

A jury returned the verdict in the case against Richard Beasley, who was charged with a high school student with killing two men from Ohio and one from Virginia. Another from South Carolina was shot but survived and testified about running for his life and hiding in the woods, scared he would bleed to death.

Family members of the victims hugged and wiped away tears as the verdict was read. Beasley, who also was convicted of aggravated robbery, kidnapping and attempted murder in wounding the lone survivor, slumped in his wheelchair, which he uses because of back problems. His mother leaned

over and sobbed.

The Ohio jury that convicted Beasley will return later to consider whether to recommend the death penalty for him.

Prosecutors, who had



Richard J. Beasley sits during his trial in Akron, Ohio.

(AP Photo/Paul Tople)

asked jurors to use common sense and return a guilty verdict, labeled the 53-year-old Beasley the triggerman in the 2011 plot with a student he mentored. The 16-year-old student, Brogan Rafferty, was convicted and sentenced last year to life in prison

without the chance of parole. Prosecutor Jonathan Baumel told jurors there was no reasonable doubt that Beasley plotted the killings, and he presented three possible theories for aggravated murder — planning the crimes, done with a kidnapping or done with a robbery. He said there was “prior calculation and design,” a component of the death penalty aggravated murder charge. “He was the mastermind behind this plot,” Baumel said. Prosecutors said the victims, all down on their luck and with few family ties that might highlight their disappearances, were lured with offers of farmhand jobs.

One man was killed near Akron, and the others were shot at a southeast Ohio

farm during bogus job interviews.

The slain men were Ralph Geiger, 56, David Pauley, 51, and Timothy Kern, 47. Kern's body was found in a shallow grave near an Ohio shopping mall.

The survivor, Scott Davis, testified that he heard the click of a gun as he walked in front of Beasley at the reputed job site. Davis, who was shot in an arm, knocked the weapon aside. “I spun around,” testified Davis, who told a harrowing story of running through the woods and hiding for seven hours. “I was worried about bleeding to death.”

Prosecutors said it was a miracle that Davis, who also was the star witness at Rafferty's trial, survived the encounter with Beasley. □

Colorado legalizes civil unions

DAN FROSCH

© 2013 New York Times

DENVER — Colorado lawmakers passed legislation Tuesday to legalize civil unions for same-sex couples, following several years of bitter debate over the issue.

Pushed by the Democrat-led Legislature and backed by a handful of Republicans, the bill had been widely expected to gain approval this year, after Democrats retook control of the state House of Representatives last November.

But Tuesday's victory was no less meaningful for supporters who had come frustratingly close to passing the legislation in 2012. And it signaled the latest shift in a state that was once seen as hostile toward gays and lesbians. “This is a historic moment to be seized and to be cherished,” said Rep. Pete Lee, D-Colorado Springs, as the House weighed civil unions for the final time Tuesday.

Leading the efforts to pass the legislation were Sen. Pat Steadman and Mark Fer-

randino, the House speaker, both Democrats from Denver and two of eight openly gay state legislators here. The bill passed the House by a vote of 39-26. The legislation had previously cleared the Senate, where Democrats also hold a majority. Gov. John Hickenlooper is expected to sign the bill into law in the coming weeks.

Currently 19 other states and the District of Columbia recognize civil unions, marriages and domestic partnerships, or other benefits for same-sex couples, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

For weeks, Colorado's legislative session has been dominated by a tense fight over proposed gun laws — a far cry from last year, when civil unions took center stage. With Republicans then controlling the House, the legislation was never called to the floor for a full debate, even though the Democrats had enough bipartisan support to pass it. □

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New York City officer found guilty in cannibal case

BENJAMIN WEISER

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NEW YORK — A New York police officer was convicted on Tuesday in a bizarre plot to kidnap, torture, kill and eat women, ending a trial whose outcome hinged on the delicate legal distinction between fantasy and reality.

The trial had drawn widespread attention in part because it involved a police officer's disturbing behavior, but also because it raised a fundamental question:

When does a virtual crime, contemplated in Internet chat rooms, become an actual crime?

There was no evidence that any of the women whom the officer, Gilberto Valle, was accused of plotting to kill were harmed. But prosecutors argued that the officer took actual steps to further his plot, like conducting surveillance of potential victims and researching them in a law enforcement database. Valle, 28, could be sentenced to life in prison for one count of kidnapping

conspiracy.

The trial highlighted some

sexual torture.

One of Valle's lawyers,

are thoughts, very ugly thoughts, but we don't

hattan. He was also convicted of illegally gaining access to the law enforcement database. He faces up to five years in prison on that count, prosecutors said.

Gatto and another defense lawyer, Robert M. Baum, said they would initially ask the judge, Paul G. Gardephe, to throw out the verdict, and beyond that would consider all possible appeal options. Throughout the trial, the defense lawyers tried to demonstrate that their client had merely been involved in role playing and never intended to harm anyone.

But Hadassa Waxman, a prosecutor, told jurors that Valle had "left the world of fantasy."

Valle, who worked in the 26th Precinct in Upper Manhattan, had planned his crimes with three co-conspirators through one website, prosecutors said. "He entered the world of reality," Waxman said, "and, thankfully, he was stopped before he could act." □



Elizabeth Valle, the mother of Gilberto Valle, a New York City Police officer accused of planning to kidnap, torture, kill and eat women, in New York, March 12, 2013. Gilberto was convicted on Tuesday and could be sentenced to life in prison for one count of kidnapping conspiracy.

(John Marshall Mantel/The New York Times)

of the darkest corners of the Internet, where fetishists hide behind Web identities like Girlmeat Hunter, which Valle used, and engage in role-playing fantasy about cannibalism and

Julia L. Gatto, called the verdict "devastating" and said the defense did not believe that the government had proved its case. "This was a thought prosecution," Gatto said. "These

prosecute people for their thoughts. And we'll continue to appeal and continue to fight for Mr. Valle." The verdict came on the 12th day of Valle's trial in U.S. District Court in Man-

Judge enters guilty plea for Holmes

Continued from front

Prosecutors have not said yet whether they will pursue the death penalty, announcing Tuesday that they will make their decision known on April 1.

The judge set Aug. 5 for the start of the trial. Prosecutors and defense attorneys declined comment.

As he has done in past hearings, Holmes sat silently through Tuesday's proceedings. He wore a red jail jumpsuit and sported a thick, bushy beard and unkempt dark brown hair. When he walked into the courtroom, he looked at his parents, Robert and Arlene Holmes. They sat silently at the front of the room and left without comment after the hearing.

In the nearly eight months since Holmes first shuffled into court with vacant eyes and reddish-orange hair,

neither he nor his lawyers have said much about how he would plead.

Holmes' lawyers repeatedly raised questions about his mental health, including a recent revelation that he was held in a psychiatric ward for several days last fall, often in restraints, because he was considered a danger to himself.

That raised the possibility that they could end up entering a plea of not guilty by reason of insanity at the hearing Tuesday. Holmes' lawyers, however, said they were not ready to enter a plea. A not guilty by reason of insanity plea carries risk. Prosecutors would gain access to Holmes' mental health records, which could help their case if the evidence of insanity is weak.

If Holmes does plead insanity, the proceedings would be prolonged further while he is evaluated

by state mental health officials. With the judge entering the plea, prosecutors still don't have access to Holmes' health records. During Tuesday's hearing, defense attorney Daniel King said he could not advise Holmes on what plea to enter. He said the defense wasn't ready despite previous delays — prompting prosecutors to object. Sylvester asked King when Holmes might be ready to enter a plea.

"We could be ready by May 1. It may be June 1," King said. "So how am I supposed to make an informed decision?" Sylvester asked before entering the not guilty plea. He said the defense can always petition to change the plea to not guilty by reason of insanity. At one point, in saying they weren't ready to enter a plea, King said, "we have ongoing work scheduled." □



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White promises “unrelenting” enforcement at SEC



President Barack Obama listens as Mary Joe White speaks in the State Dining Room of the White House in Washington.
(AP Photo/Carolyn Kaster)

MARCY GORDON
AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mary Jo White vowed Tuesday to make “bold and unrelenting” enforcement of Wall Street a high priority if she is confirmed chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The former federal prosecutor told a Senate panel that investors need to know the playing field is level and that wrongdoers will be “aggressively and successfully” pursued. White also pledged to avoid potential conflicts of interest from her work over the past decade as a corporate litigator.

“Strong enforcement is necessary for investor confidence and is essential to the integrity of our financial markets,” White, 65, said during a two-hour confirmation hearing before the Senate Banking Committee. She is expected win confirmation from the panel and the full Senate, becoming the first prosecutor to lead the SEC. She would replace Elisse Walter, who has been interim chairman since Mary Schapiro re-

signed in December.

Senators also questioned Richard Cordray, who was re-nominated by Obama to head the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau. His confirmation is less certain. Many Republicans opposed the creation of the agency in 2010 and want to limit his power.

Chairman Tim Johnson said after the hearing that the panel would vote on both nominations “as soon as possible.” Still, he noted that Republican objections to the consumer agency could hold up the vote.

White served as the U.S. attorney in Manhattan from 1993 through 2002. By nominating her to the post, President Barack Obama sent a signal that he wants the government to get tougher with Wall Street.

Critics have complained that the SEC has failed to act aggressively to charge top executives at the biggest U.S. banks who may have contributed to the 2008 financial crisis.

White said enforcement would be a priority and that she would pursue “all

wrongdoers - individual and institutional, of whatever position or size.”

“Proceeding aggressively against wrongdoers is not only the right thing to do, but it also will serve to deter the sharp and unlawful practices of others who must be made to think twice -and stop in their tracks - rather than risk discovery, pursuit, and punishment by the SEC,” White told the panel.

Still, much of White’s work over the past decade has been representing corporate interests. At Debvoise & Plimpton, a prominent New York-based law firm, her clients included JPMorgan Chase, Microsoft, General Electric and Toyota.

Pressed by senators during

the hearing about those ties, White tried to reassure them that she would avoid potential conflicts of interest caused by her past work and the work of her husband, who is a corporate attorney. She said her work for large banks and corporations doesn’t mean that she has embraced their policies. “The American public will be my client, and I will work as zealously as possible on behalf of them,” White said.

Last month, she promised in a letter to the SEC ethics office to step aside from any decision affecting a former client for one year after she represented them. That’s in line with federal ethics guidelines for agency officials.

She also pledged to abstain from all decisions brought by Cravath, Swaine & Moore, her husband’s firm. White’s responsibilities will also include enforcing complex regulations written in response to the worst crisis since the Depression of the 1930s. The SEC chairman and commissioners must vote to approve enforcement actions against specific companies or individuals as well as new rules that apply generally.

On Tuesday, White said she would quickly get to the business of writing new rules with the other SEC commissioners. White said she has studied pending issues, including strengthened control over money-market mutual funds. □



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Ahmadinejad under fire for hugging Chavez's mother

ALI AKBAR DAREINI

Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Senior Iranian clerics have scolded President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for consoling Hugo Chavez's mother with a hug - a physical contact considered a sin under Iran's strict Islamic codes.

The rebuke follows a widely published photo showing Ahmadinejad embracing Chavez's mother at the funeral of the late Venezuelan president in what is seen as taboo-breaking behavior in Iran.

Iranian papers on Tuesday cited clerics from the religious center of Qom who described the hug as "forbidden," inappropriate behavior and "clowning around."

Iran's strict Islamic codes

prohibit physical contact between unrelated members of the opposite sex.

The clerics did not spare Ahmadinejad.

"Touching a non-mahram (a woman who is not a close relative) is forbidden under any circumstances, whether shaking hands or touching by the cheek," said one of the clerics, Mohammad Taqi Rahbar, adding that such a contact, even with "an older woman is not allowed ... and contrary to the dignity of the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran."

Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, Iran's former judiciary chief and a religious leader in Qom, said Ahmadinejad was "clowning around" and his hug shows he failed to "protect the dignity of his nation and his

position."

The clerics were also outraged by Ahmadinejad's letter of condolence to Venezuelans and their in-

be made in this matter," said Yazdi, addressing Ahmadinejad directly.

Iranian Vice President Mohammad Reza Mirtajeddi-

cal robe ... you should not deny what happened."

Later Tuesday, the semi-official Mehr news agency reported that 18 lawmakers



Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad comforts Elena Frias next to the flag-draped coffin of her son, Venezuela's late President Hugo Chavez, during the funeral ceremony at the military academy in Caracas, Venezuela. Senior Iranian clerics have criticized President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad for consoling Hugo Chavez's mother with a hug — a physical contact considered a sin under the country's strict Islamic codes. (AP Photo/Miraflores PO)

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terim leader Nicolas Maduro because the Iranian president had described Chavez as a "martyr" who will be resurrected and who will return to Earth along with Jesus Christ and Imam Mahdi, a 9th century saint revered by Shiite Muslims. "Your knowledge of religious issues is limited and no intervention could

ni, a cleric who accompanied Ahmadinejad to Venezuela and stood by as the Iranian president hugged Chavez's mother at the funeral last week in Caracas had initially tried to deny the story, saying the photo was a fake.

Yazdi also scolded Mirtajeddini: "You are a cleric and you wear the cleri-

ers issued a statement urging Ahmadinejad to observe national and international norms in his foreign meetings.

The uproar surrounding the hug has given Ahmadinejad's conservative opponents fodder to criticize him, three months ahead of the June presidential elections. □

Syrian army eroded by defections, deaths

KARIN LAUB

Associated Press

BEIRUT (AP) — A top Syrian cleric's appeal to young men to join the army raised the question of whether President Bashar Assad is running out of soldiers, prompting a pro-government newspaper to reassure readers Tuesday that the military can keep fighting insurgents for years to come.

Syria's civil war, with its large-scale defections, thousands of soldiers killed and multiple fronts, has eroded one of the Arab world's biggest armies, with pro-Assad militias increasingly filling in for troops.

But while the rebels have scored military and diplo-

matic gains, the regime is far from its breaking point. Assad appears to have stopped trying to retake all of the rebel-held areas, lacking the manpower to do so. But his forces have pinned down opposition fighters with artillery and airstrikes, while repelling rebel assaults on the capital of Damascus and other regime strongholds.

In this scenario, the regime can hang on for months, said Joseph Holliday, a Syria analyst at the Washington-based Institute for the Study of War. "The opposition is definitely ascendant, and Bashar is going down, (but) it's a question of time," he said.

Syria's troop strength

moved into the spotlight with a call for a general mobilization by Grand Mufti Ahmad Badreddine Hassoun, the country's top state-appointed Sunni Muslim cleric and Assad loyalist. He told state TV on Sunday that Syrians must rally to defend their country against a "global conspiracy."

On Tuesday, the pro-government al-Watan newspaper dismissed speculation that the mufti's appeal was a sign of attrition among the troops. The army is "fine" and troops "have been waging since for the past two years with unprecedented valor and courage," the newspaper said in a commentary. □

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Last survivor of plot to kill Hitler dies at 90

DAVID RISING
Associated Press

BERLIN (AP) — As a 22-year-old German army lieutenant, Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist volunteered to wear a suicide vest to a meeting with Adolf Hitler and to blow himself up along with the Nazi dictator.

The assassination didn't come to pass, but von Kleist went on to play a key role in the most famous attempt on Hitler later that same year, and was the last surviving member of the group of German officers who tried and failed to kill the Fuehrer on July 20, 1944.

Von Kleist died Friday at age 90 at his home in Munich, his wife Gundula von Kleist told The Associated Press.

Von Kleist was born July 10, 1922, on his family estate Schmenzin in Pommerania in an area of northeastern Germany that is today Poland.

The von Kleist family was a long line of Prussian landowners, who had served the state for centuries in high-ranking military and administrative positions.

Von Kleist's father, Ewald von Kleist, was an early opponent of Hitler even before he came to power, and was arrested many times after the Nazi dictator took control in 1933. The elder von Kleist famously traveled to England in 1938, the year before World War II broke out, to try and determine whether other Western nations would support a coup attempt

against Hitler, but failed to get the British government to change its policy of appeasement.

Despite his family's opposition to the Nazis, younger von Kleist joined the German army in 1940, and was wounded in 1943 in fighting on the Eastern Front.

During his convalescence, he was approached in January 1944 by Col. Claus von Stauffenberg, another officer from an aristocratic family, and presented with a plan to kill Hitler. Von Kleist had been chosen as the officer to model a new uniform for Hitler, and von Stauffenberg proposed that he wear a suicide vest underneath, and detonate it when he stood next to the dictator.

Years later von Kleist remembered explaining the suicide plot to his father, who paused only briefly before telling his 22-year-old son: "Yes, you have to do this."

"Fathers love their sons and mine certainly did, and I had been quite sure he would say no," von Kleist recalled. "But, as always, I had underestimated him."

The suicide attack plan never came to fruition.

Months later, however, von Kleist was approached again by von Stauffenberg to take part in what would become known as the July 20 plot — for the day in 1944 that the assassination was attempted — which was brought to the big screen in 2008 in "Valkyrie," starring Tom Cruise as von Stauffenberg.

Von Kleist was supposed to play a key role as the person who was to carry a briefcase packed with explosives to a meeting with

ing much of the explosive force.

Von Kleist remained in Berlin, charged with overseeing the arrest of officers



In this July 20, 2010 picture Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist, walks in Berlin, Germany to attend a military ceremony. Ewald-Heinrich von Kleist, the last surviving member of the main plot to kill Adolf Hitler and who once volunteered to wear a suicide vest to assassinate the Nazi dictator, has died. He was 90.

(AP Photo/Henning Schacht)

Hitler. In a change of plans, however, von Stauffenberg decided to plant the bomb himself.

Von Stauffenberg placed the bomb in a conference room where Hitler was meeting with his aides and military advisers at his East Prussian headquarters. Hitler escaped the full force of the blast when someone moved the briefcase next to a table leg, deflect-

and officials loyal to Hitler in the city.

But when news spread that Hitler had survived, the plot crumbled and von Stauffenberg, von Kleist's father, and scores of others were arrested and executed in an orgy of revenge killings. Some were hanged by the neck with piano wire. Von Stauffenberg was shot by firing squad.

Von Kleist himself was ar-

rested, questioned at length by the Gestapo, and sent to a concentration camp, but then inexplicably let go and returned to combat duty.

Following the war, von Kleist founded the Ewald von Kleist publishing house, and became involved in public education on security issues and trans-Atlantic relations. In 1952 he founded the independent defense affairs association known as the Society for Military Studies, and the European Military Studies magazine in 1954.

In 1963 he founded what would become the annual Munich Security Conference — a forum that still today brings together the world's top diplomats and defense officials, in an informal setting for talks on global security policy, and has long been considered the preeminent conference on NATO issues.

Von Kleist served as the conference's moderator until 1998, before handing it over to Chancellor Helmut Kohl's longtime foreign policy adviser Horst Teltschik, who has also since stepped down.

For his efforts leading the Munich Security Conference, von Kleist was awarded the U.S. Department of Defense's Medal for Distinguished Public Service in 1991, its highest award for a civilian.

His other decorations include Germany's Federal Order of Merit and France's Officier de la Legion d'Honneur. □

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Greece: Blasts target conservative politicians

C. KANTOURIS
Associated Press
THESSALONIKI, Greece
(AP) — Small bombs exploded at the offices of three prominent conservative politicians in northern Greece late Tuesday, leaving staff briefly stranded in fires caused by the blasts, authorities said. The attacks occurred within several minutes in central Thessaloniki, Greece's second largest city, and were carried out using small cooking gas canisters. City fire official Manolis Tsolakis said one of the attacks targeted the private office of the deputy development minister, Stavros Kalafatis, where a fire caused extensive damage

to the eighth-story office. Two female office employees jumped to the seventh floor to escape the fire. "The fire was in progress when the two women got out," he said. One of the

women received medical attention in hospital after hurting her leg, fire service officials said. Nearby, four people were rescued by firefighters at the sites of the other at-

tacks at the offices of conservative parliament members Giorgos Orfanos and Costas Gioulekas that sustained more limited damage. The three politicians are all members of the center-right New Democracy party that is leading Greece's coalition government formed after general elections last June. Government spokesman Simos Kedikoglou called the attacks an act of terrorism. "Bombers in hoods do not make the decisions in a democracy. The people do," he said. "Acts of terrorism will not affect the government. They confirm that we are on the right path."

Attacks using small bombs and incendiary devices are common in Greece, and frequently carried out by far-left and anarchist groups. Politicians have been targeted more frequently since the country was affected by a major financial crisis. Separately Tuesday, anti-terrorism officers raided two apartments in greater Athens after seizing a weapons stash in the trunk of a rented car. The weapons were found in central Athens, and included four hand grenades, two automatic rifles, ammunition magazines and two crates of rifle bullets. No arrests were announced. □



Firefighters are seen outside the office of conservative parliament member Giorgos Orfanos after an explosion in the northern Greek port city of Thessaloniki, Tuesday, March 12, 2013. (AP Photo/Nikolas Giakoumidis)

Cameron may veto EU's Syria arms embargo

SYLVIA HUI
Associated Press
LONDON (AP) — Britain may consider vetoing an extension of the European Union's arms embargo on Syria if the situation does not improve there, Prime Minister David Cameron said Tuesday. The EU has a blanket embargo against shipping arms to Syria, though last month Britain persuaded the EU to soften the embargo and allow member states to provide non-lethal aid, such as armored vehicles, to the rebels fighting the regime of President Bashar Assad. Britain and France have signaled their support for lifting the embargo further to allow weapons into Syria. The current EU embargo expires in May. Western countries have been rethinking their stance on helping the

rebels as Assad's support erodes. The United States, in a significant policy shift, announced Feb. 28 that it would for the first time provide non-lethal aid — things like food rations and medical supplies — directly to rebels who are battling to oust Assad. But a senior U.S. military commander, Marine Corps Gen. James Mattis, warned last week that the situation is too complicated in Syria now for the U.S. to provide opposition forces with lethal aid.

In the EU, some diplomats also oppose changing the embargo, preferring a political solution. When asked about his position on the embargo Tuesday, Cameron told a parliamentary committee: "I hope that we can persuade our European partners (and) if and when a further change becomes necessary, they will agree with us. "But if we can't, then it's not out of the question we might have to do things in our own way. It's possible," he said. □

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Clashes mark Bangladesh opposition protest

JULHAS ALAM
Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP)

— Several bombs exploded in Bangladesh's capital and police clashed with protesters Tuesday as opposition leaders enforced a daylong, nationwide general strike over what they say is police intimidation.

Witnesses and news reports said several homemade bombs exploded during the beginning of the shut-down. RTV and Bangla Vision stations reported explosions in different areas of Dhaka.

It was not clear if there were any injuries.

Small-scale clashes were reported inside and outside Dhaka, and thousands of security officials were deployed in the capital to maintain order.

Nearly 400 members of paramilitary Bangladesh Border Guard were deployed to aid police in Dhaka, said Maj. Gen. Aziz Ahmed, the force's director general.

Schools and most businesses in Dhaka were closed Tuesday. Traffic was thin on the usually clogged streets. An 18-party opposition alliance led by the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, or BNP, was enforcing the strike to protest alleged police intimidation during a

rally on Monday.

The party and its allies are demanding restoration of a caretaker government system to oversee upcoming elections. Its ally Jamaat-e-Islami also wants a halt to trials of several opposition politicians accused of

party accused police of putting the bombs inside the headquarters to create a drama.

BNP's acting secretary general, Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir, a former mayor of Dhaka City Corp. and a former home minister were

bail hearing has been set for March 20.

Zia, in a meeting with senior party leaders, criticized the government for the arrests and later announced a similar nationwide shut-down for March 18 and 19 if the detained senior leaders are not freed immediately. Alamgir went straight to the party headquarters from police custody and said they would go ahead with the plan for more shut-downs if all the leaders and activists are not freed by Thursday.

Also on Tuesday, police filed two cases accusing more than 150 opposition activists of Monday's explosions and alleging they had obstructed police, said police official Golam Sarwar.

Zia's party and Jamaat-e-Islami have denounced the trials of several opposition politicians accused of mass killings and atrocities during Bangladesh's 1971 independence war against Pakistan, saying they are politically motivated.

The administration of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina initiated the trials in 2010 and three verdicts have been handed down. Ten of the defendants convicted or on trial are from Jamaat-e-Islami, the country's largest Islamic party, while two others belong to the BNP. □



A Bangladeshi policeman detains an activist of opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) during a nationwide strike in Dhaka, Bangladesh, Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

(AP Photo/A.M. Ahad)

crimes stemming from the country's 1971 independence war.

After Monday's rally, police arrested some senior leaders and more than 100 activists of the BNP, headed by former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, during a raid on its party headquarters in Dhaka. Police said they recovered at least 10 homemade bombs from the headquarters. But the

among those detained.

On Tuesday afternoon, authorities released three leaders including Alamgir after they had been held for nearly 18 hours.

A Dhaka court jailed about 100 others pending more hearings on their bail petitions, government prosecutor Abdullah Abu said. They were taken to court Tuesday after an overnight stay in a police station. The next

St. Maarten officials expand bribery probe

JUDY FITZPATRICK
Associated Press

PHILIPSBURG, St. Maarten

(AP) — Authorities in St. Maarten are investigating allegations that the leader of the Dutch territory's main opposition party asked the manager of a strip club to help blackmail a fellow legislator.

Solicitor General Taco Stein said late Monday that officials expanded the probe after local media reported that Theo Heyliger, leader of the United People's Party, sought to blackmail legislator Patrick Illidge so he could break the current ruling coalition and take control of government.

Illidge is an independent parliamentarian but forms part of St. Maarten's gov-

erning coalition.

A recently publicized video showed him seeming to accept stacks of money from the manager of the Bada Bing strip club in Simpson Bay as they discussed business permits. The video dated Sept. 30, 2012 was sent anonymously to a local newspaper last week.

Heyliger did not respond to requests for comment, while Illidge has said there is more than "meets the eye" to the video and that the truth will be revealed in coming days. He has since declined further comment. In the video, strip club manager Jaap van den Heuvel takes money out of a safe and says in Dutch: "At this moment I only have 15. We're almost there, it's al-

most arranged, only 30 left. You know what it is, we just had a very (expletive) quiet month. I can't take too much out. If I take too much out, then it will be obvious. Understand what I mean?"

The two men are heard talking about securing a club permit as well as extending employment permits for the dancers. Van den Heuvel also requested that his business be allowed to remain open until 5 a.m. Van den Heuvel has not responded to requests for comment, but a local news website published a letter that Van den Heuvel had sent his attorney describing the handover as repayment of a loan from Illidge and saying that saying that

the opposition party leader had asked him to record a video of the payment so it could be used to pressure Illidge into returning to Heyliger's party.

He also said the video was supposed to remain private and accused Heyliger of sending it to a local newspaper.

Van den Heuvel's attorney, Cor Merx, verified the contents of the letter to The Associated Press.

Prime Minister Sarah Wescot-Williams has asked that people wait until the facts were in before rushing to judgment.

St. Maarten is part of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and shares an island with the French dependency of St. Martin. □

French pressing Skype to register as phone service

DAVID JOLLY

© 2013 New York Times

PARIS — French regulators said Tuesday that they had asked prosecutors to investigate Microsoft's Skype unit over its failure to register as a telecommunications operator in accordance with local law, raising the question of what constitutes a telephone company in the age of Internet-based communications.

The regulator, known by its French acronym ARCEP, said that it had "on several occasions" asked Skype Communications, which is based in Luxembourg, "to declare itself an electronic communications operator" and that the company had not complied.

A company acting as a telecommunications operator incurs certain obligations, the French agency said, notably that "of routing emergency calls and putting in place a means for allowing legal wiretapping."

Skype and other Internet phone services use a system called voice-over-Internet protocol, or VoIP, to enable conversations and video meetings over the Internet. Microsoft has come under pressure from digital rights groups over how information about users collected from Skype is shared with advertisers and law enforcement agencies.

ARCEP noted that people could make Skype calls from a computer or smartphone.

"In effect," the regulator said, "this service constitutes furnishing a telephone service to the public."

French law does not require that a telecommunications operator obtain administrative authorization, ARCEP said, but "only a prior declaration."

Failure to follow the law is a criminal offense, however, and ARCEP said it was turning the matter over to Paris prosecutors. □



Radisson Aruba Resort Hosts International Women's Day Celebration

PALM BEACH - The resort hosted a special luncheon in honor of all female colleagues in the Grand Caribbean Ballroom on Friday, March 8th, in order to acknowledge and appreciate the important role women play on the job and in our community.

The celebration was opened by Glenn Farro, Director of Human Resources, and by General Manager Mark Frances, who both warmly welcomed their guests reiterating how much women contribute to the life of the resort and to visitors' experiences on the island.

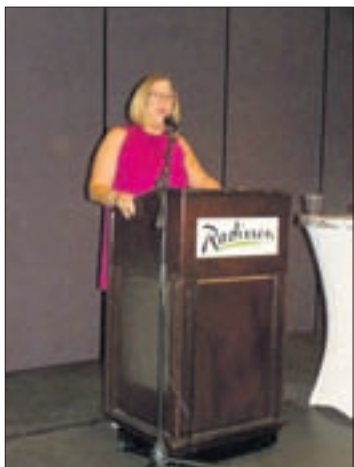
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come Fear," motivating the audience to achieve more equipped with faith, optimism and determination.

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gift from the General Manager, including roses and chocolates from the executive team, adding up to a memorable and unforgettable event. □



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The Gold Mine Ranch is honored to receive the Tripadvisor Certificate of Excellence award for the year 2012. "It is with great pride that we accept this award. Our family and staff work with great motivation, dedication and perseverance to be the best horseback riding ranch on Aruba"-Jay Dijkhoff. The Gold Mine Ranch is a family operated company that aims to provide the best service to guests. The Ranch provides horseback adventure trail rides on well-trained horses covering over 7 panoramic views, including beaches. As a plus they are the only ranch in Aruba that offers rides to the Hidden Valley



& Lagoon and the Indian trail, sites that can only be seen while on horseback. It's no wonder that many guests agree that The Gold Mine Ranch has been the highlight of their vacation on review sites such as Tripadvisor.com.

"We would like to thank all our guests who have supported us throughout the years and all our reviewers for taking the time to write their candid comments on Tripadvisor. We are committed to our promise to provide exciting horseback adventures, not just trail rides. To all our guests, thank you for letting us be the highlight of your vacation".

The Gold Mine Ranch is a family operated horse

ranch that offers exciting horseback adventures in the North-east side of the island of Aruba, in the Caribbean. More than just trail rides, the Ranch offers group or private tours to small intimate groups on well trained horses & tailored to the needs or skills of each rider. Accommodations are possible for families, friends, couples as well as beginners through advanced riders. As the only ranch that offers rides passed over 7 panoramic views, and the only Ranch awarded for its superb service and hospitality, many regard the Gold Mine Ranch as the 'highlight of their vacation'. For more information visit www.the-goldmineranch.com.



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levels Fun, Intermediate and Advanced. Winners will receive medals and gift certificates by Wema.

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with bean bags. Ice cold drinks will be served at the BTA bar and food will be available from Senor Frog's. Everyone can play at their own level from beginner till Pro/Open.

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Red Egg and Ginger Party at Amazonia Churrascaria

Palm Beach – More than 150 party-guests enjoyed the hospitality of Amazonia Churrascaria on the occasion of baby Elizabeth's birthday. According to Chinese tradition, when a baby turns 1 month old, parents like to host a celebration known as a Red Egg and Ginger Party in

which the baby receives a name and is showered with gifts by friends and family members. In the past surviving the first month was a cause for celebration, and families carry on with this tradition as a symbol of their cultural history. Traditional Chinese gifts-- including symbols



of prosperity and protection—made the ideal gifts, when baby Elizabeth Z. Fang was formally introduced for the first time,

receiving blessings from father Felipe and mom Katty, and all their guests, at all red and pink event, for an extra measure of good

luck. Seen here, the decorated restaurant hosting a fortunate moment, over delicious food and drink! □

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Expedia working with 28 different small hotels in Aruba

ORANJESTAD – Recently Expedia Inc. had a good year for Aruba and it's hotels. Aruba is one of the top 5 markets in the Caribbean and Expedia Inc. books accommodations in 28 of our hotels.

"Seeing that Aruba's limited inventory is basically big hotels we've begun to focus on the available timeshare inventory also, says De Demetrius Canton, Director of Caribbean marketing.

Small hotels represent about half of the hotels in Expedia's direct global inventory.

Expedia has about 7600 rooms available in for Aruba in its inventory. Pa Aruba esaki ta By working with Expedia, small and independent hotels gain exposure to the more than 50 million travelers that visit Expedia group travel sites each month, which includes more than 140 branded sites in 70 countries; Egencia®, serving business travelers in 54 countries; leading discount travel site Hotwire®; as well as Expedia® Affiliate Network, which powers travel bookings for more than ten



thousand affiliate websites. In the Caribbean, for example, small hotels make up more than half of Expedia's Caribbean portfolio and 74 percent of all 2012 Caribbean acquisitions.

representa 7 acomodacion caba y nan ta habri pa acomoda tur our small hotels also known as boutique hotels

Moreover, Expedia exposes hotel partners on more than 135 mobile booking sites around the world, through its mobile apps, which have been downloaded more than 20 million times by consumers in more than 220 countries and territories at a rate of 40 downloads per minute. Hotel partners also benefit from exposure resulting from Expedia Inc.'s sizeable strategic marketing investment, which totaled \$1.5 billion in 2011. These investments reap big rewards for small hotels. □

Manny Ramirez signs contract with Taiwan team

Former MLB star Manny Ramirez, left, poses for the media with head of E-United Group Lin Yi-shou, center, and EDA Rhinos' team manager Yang Sun-long after signing a short-term contract to play on the EDA Rhinos in Taiwan's professional baseball league in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

Associated Press
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NHL Capsules

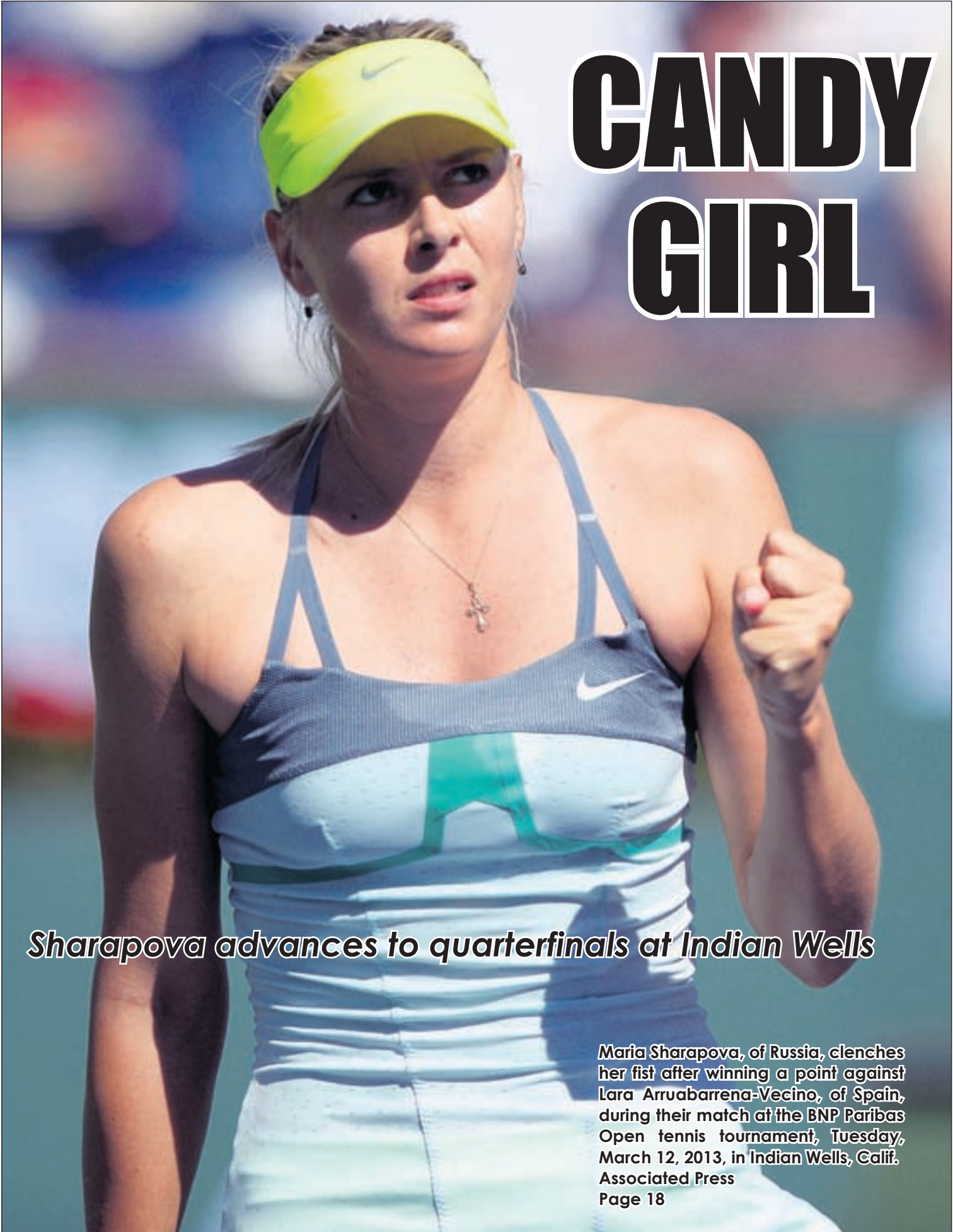


Los Angeles Kings right winger Dustin Brown (23) and Calgary Flames right winger Tim Jackman (15) collide in the second period of an NHL hockey game in Los Angeles, Monday, March 11, 2013. Associated Press

Brown leads surging Kings past Calgary again, 3-1

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Captain Dustin Brown scored two goals and Jonathan Quick made 23 saves as the surging Los Angeles Kings beat Calgary 3-1 on Monday night for their second win over the Flames in three days. Brown and Jarret Stoll scored first-period goals before Brown added an empty-netter for the defending Stanley Cup champions, who moved up to third place in the Western Conference with their 11th win in 14 games. Despite a rough third period dominated by Calgary, the champs finished their five-game homestand with four victories.

Continued on page 19



CANDY GIRL

Sharapova advances to quarterfinals at Indian Wells

Maria Sharapova, of Russia, clenches her fist after winning a point against Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino, of Spain, during their match at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in Indian Wells, Calif. Associated Press
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Sharapova reaches quarterfinals at Indian Wells

BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

INDIAN WELLS, California

(AP) — Maria Sharapova advanced to the quarterfinals of the BNP Paribas Open on Tuesday with a 7-5, 6-0 win over Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino of Spain. Sharapova trailed 2-0 and 3-2 in the first set before rallying on a cloudless day in the desert when temperature reached the lower 90s. Novak Djokovic and Victoria Azarenka, the top-ranked man and woman, were to play later in the day.

No. 8 seed Jo-Wilfried Tsonga edged 32nd-seeded Mardy Fish 7-6 (4), 7-6 (0) in a third-round match on the men's side.

"I really felt the match could have been a completely different scoreline pretty easily," Fish said. "That's why you're a little disappointed."

Tsonga has beaten Fish all four times they have



Maria Sharapova, of Russia, serves against Lara Arruabarrena-Vecino, of Spain, during their match at the BNP Paribas Open tennis tournament, Tuesday, March 12, 2013, in Indian Wells, Calif.

Associated Press

played. The Frenchman next plays 17th-seeded Milos Raonic, who outlasted Marin Cilic 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.

"I'm going to have to serve well and try to get ahead on his second-serve points," Raonic said about Tsonga.

"When he's making his first serves he serves really well and it's tough."

Fish lost in the third round for

the second straight year. He is playing his first tournament since last September after being sidelined with a heart condition, although he hasn't disclosed the exact nature of the problems. "I certainly missed playing tennis for a living. I certainly missed making money, got bills to pay," he said. "It's a tough thing because the last time that I was on the tennis court was some of the worst times I have ever had. That part is very hard to deal with. It's not easy to come back from that. This week is a good step in the right direction."

Fish is still in contention in doubles with partner James Blake, and he plans to play in Key Biscayne, Florida, next week.

On the women's side, fifth-seeded Petra Kvitová beat No. 19 seed Klara Zakopalová 6-2, 6-3, and sixth-seeded Sara Errani defeated No. 9 Marion Bartoli 6-3, 6-2. □

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CASINO AND SHOPS

Splitter helps Spurs beat Thunder 105-93

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Tiago Splitter had 21 points and 10 rebounds as the San Antonio Spurs ended the Oklahoma City Thunder's five-game winning streak with a 105-93 victory on Monday night.

Kawhi Leonard scored 17 points, Danny Green had 16 and Tim Duncan finished with 13 as San Antonio (49-15) rebounded from its second-worst home loss ever to maintain the Western Conference's top record. Manu Ginobili had 12 points and Boris Diaw added 11 as the Spurs' reserves outscored their counterparts 34-16.

Kevin Durant had 26 points and Russell Westbrook added 25 for Oklahoma City (47-17), which lost its sixth straight in San Antonio. Serge Ibaka was the only other player in double figures, adding 13 points and 16 rebounds.

San Antonio's defense was the difference, turning an evenly matched battle into its third victory in four games without Tony Parker. The All-Star point guard is going to miss another three weeks with a sprained left ankle.

WARRIORS 92, KNICKS 63

OAKLAND, California (AP)

— Stephen Curry scored 26 points, David Lee had 21

and Golden State routed New York for its most lopsided win of the season.

Almost two weeks after his 54-point masterpiece at Madison Square Garden, Curry shared the spotlight with his co-captain in front of a sellout crowd announced at 19,596. He was 4 for 7 from 3-point range, and Lee finished with 10 rebounds and eight assists after helping the Warriors go ahead by 27 points in the third quarter.

Carmelo Anthony had 14 points and 10 rebounds after missing New York's previous three games because of nagging right knee.

NUGGETS 108, SUNS 93

PHOENIX (AP) — Kosta Koufos scored a career high 22 points on 10-of-11 shooting, mostly from point-blank range, and Denver ran its winning streak to nine games.

Corey Brewer added 20 points and Ty Lawson 19 as the Nuggets matched their longest winning streak of the season.

Denver dominated points in the paint 74-32, including an assortment of soaring dunks.

Wesley Johnson scored 18 and Marcus Morris 16 for the Suns. Hamed Haddadi scored a career-high 13 for

Phoenix.

76ERS 106, NETS 97

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Spencer Hawes had 24 points and 10 rebounds, Jrue Holiday added 15 points and 11 assists and Philadelphia snapped a five-game losing streak.

Hawes also had seven assists. Thaddeus Young had 16 points and 10 rebounds in coach Doug Collins' 100th victory with the team.

Deron Williams had 27 points and 13 assists for the Nets, who had won three in a row.

Philadelphia grabbed control in the second quarter and never trailed in the second half.

It was a rare feel-good win for a team that had high expectations before center Andrew Bynum was lost indefinitely with knee injuries.

Evan Turner also scored 16 points for the Sixers, and Dorell Wright had 10.

JAZZ 103, PISTONS 90

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Mo Williams scored 20 points and Al Jefferson had 16, helping Utah stop a four-game slide.

Reserves Marvin Williams and Enes Kanter added 14 points apiece for the Jazz (33-31), who moved into a tie with the idle Los Angeles Lakers for the final playoff



San Antonio Spurs' Tiago Splitter (22), of Brazil, shoots over Oklahoma City Thunder's Serge Ibaka, of Congo, during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, March 11, 2013, in San Antonio. Associated Press

spot in the Western Conference. Utah had dropped seven of eight overall.

Rodney Stuckey, Greg Monroe and Jonas Jerebko each had 15 points for the Pistons (23-43), who lost their sixth straight game.

Detroit point guard Brandon Knight sprained his left ankle in the first quarter and did not return. His leg buckled after he was fouled by Jazz guard Randy Foye on a drive to the

basket.

It's been a rough couple of days for Knight, who was on receiving end of a monster dunk by DeAndre Jordan in Detroit's 129-97 loss at the Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday night.

In other NBA games it was Philadelphia 106, Brooklyn 97; San Antonio 105, Oklahoma City 93; Utah 103, Detroit 90; Denver 108, Phoenix 93; and Golden State 92, New York 63. □

NHL Capsules

Continued from Page 17

With steadily improving play after a rough start to the season, Los Angeles trails only Chicago and Anaheim in the West race. Mikael Backlund ruined Quick's shutout bid with 5:22 to play for last-place Calgary, which has lost six straight on the road.

BRUINS 3, SENATORS 2

OTTAWA, Ontario (AP)

— David Krejci scored the shootout winner and had an assist in regulation as the Boston Bruins defeated the Ottawa Senators 3-2 on Monday night.

Tuuka Rask made 30 saves in regulation and stopped

three of four Senators in the shootout, including a bizarre attempt from Kaspar Daugavins. The Ottawa forward carried the puck by pressing down with the tip of his stick before attempting a failed 360 move in front of Rask. Shawn Thornton and Daniel Paille scored for Boston, which rallied from a 2-0 deficit to win its 10th straight in Ottawa.

Guillaume Latendresse — in his first game back from injury since Jan. 30 — and Kyle Turris scored in regulation for the Senators. Robin Lehner made 33 saves through three periods and overtime. □

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Manny Ramirez signs contract with Taiwan team

PETER ENAV
Associated Press
KAOHSIUNG, Taiwan (AP)

— Former MLB star Manny Ramirez said Tuesday he is “starting a new beginning” after signing a short-term contract to play with the EDA Rhinos in Taiwan’s professional baseball league. The Rhinos said Ramirez, 40, will earn \$25,000 a month to appear with the team during this year’s March-

“I don’t think about the money and contract,” he said. “I just think it is a great opportunity for me and the fans.” Ramirez’s arrival in Taiwan is the latest stop in a 22-year career that has seen him morph from a promising hitter in the Cleveland Indians organization to a bona fide star with the Boston Red Sox, and a huge attraction with the Los Angeles Dodg-

But Ramirez has been dogged by serious problems off the field, earning lengthy bans for drug abuse in 2009 and 2011. In 2012 Ramirez hit .302 for Oakland A’s Triple-A affiliate in Sacramento but his contract was not renewed. Taiwan’s professional baseball league consists of only four teams, having been whittled down from a high of nine in 2008, amid a



Former MLB star Manny Ramirez poses for media with an honorary baseball bat and new team jersey after signing a short-term contract to play on the EDA Rhinos in Taiwan’s professional baseball league in Kaohsiung, Taiwan, Tuesday, March 12, 2013.

Associated Press

November season. Speaking at a news conference in the Rhinos home town of Kaohsiung in southern Taiwan, Ramirez said he felt “blessed” about the opportunity to play in Taiwan, where he will earn about 1/100th of his salary during his MLB heyday.

ers and the Chicago White Sox. In 2004 he helped lead the Red Sox to their first world title since 1918, and was named the Most Valuable Player in the World Series. His last major league appearance was with the Tampa Bay Rays in 2011, where he went 1-17.

series of bribery and game-fixing scandals. The Taiwan national team advanced through the first round at this year’s World Baseball Classic, but failed to get past qualifiers Netherlands and Japan during this past weekend’s games in Tokyo. □

WBC



Japan’s third baseman Nobuhiro Matsuda reacts by Netherlands’ catcher Quintin De Cuba after scoring on Hisayoshi Chono’s single in the eighth inning of their World Baseball Classic second round game at Tokyo Dome in Tokyo Tuesday, March 12, 2013.
Associated Press

Japan beats the Netherlands 10-6

JIM ARMSTRONG
AP Sports Writer

TOKYO (AP) — Shinnosuke Abe homered twice in an eight-run second inning as two-time defending champion Japan beat the Netherlands 10-6 to wrap up first place in Pool 1 of the World Baseball Classic. Japan and the Netherlands have both qualified for the semifinals in San Francisco on March 17-18. Tuesday’s game was to decide the pool winner and runner-up.

“Getting eight runs like that early was huge,” Japan manager Koji Yamamoto said. “It was good to see Abe hitting like that because we rely on him in big games.”

Andrelton Simmons led off the game with a solo homer to left but the lead didn’t last long. Abe tied it with a solo homer to right off Netherlands starter David Bergman.

After an RBI single by Nobuhiro Matsuda, Hisayoshi Chono hit a bases-loaded double that gave Japan a 5-1 lead. Abe then connected for a three-run homer to give Japan an 8-1 lead.

“It’s been a while since I hit two in one inning,” said Abe, the captain of Japan’s team. “We had a lot of support from our fans here and now we’re going over there to win it all.” Japan starter Kenji Otonari

earned the win after giving up one run on one hit while striking out six over three innings.

After scoring two runs in the seventh, the Netherlands closed the gap to 8-6 in the eighth. Hainley Statia scored on a groundout to short, Kallian Sams hit an RBI single to center and Quintin De Cuba hit a single to right that scored Sams from third.

Chono drove in two runs in the eighth with a single to left and Kazuhisa Makita retired the side to close out the game.

Japan, with no players from Major League Baseball rosters, went 5-1 in the first two rounds, losing only to Cuba.

Dominican Republic rallies past Italy 5-4

MIAMI (AP) — Nelson Cruz’s two-out RBI single broke a seventh-inning tie, and the Dominican Republic overcame an early four-run deficit to beat Italy 5-4 Tuesday in the World Baseball Classic.

The Dominicans (4-0) remained unbeaten and advanced to a winner’s-bracket game Thursday night in the double-elimination second round.

Robinson Cano had three hits, including his second homer of the WBC with a drive off the upper-deck facade in right field. Jose Reyes also homered for the Dominican Republic. □



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Mitch Seavey in Iditarod lead, Aliy Zirkle close

MARK THIESSEN
RACHEL D'ORO
Associated Press

NOME, Alaska (AP) — This year's Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race is shaping up to be an exciting sprint to the finish with 2004 champion Mitch Seavey leading the race, but last year's second-place finisher close and on the move with a faster team.

The leaders were just 77 miles (124 kilometers) from the finish in the 1,000-mile race from Anchorage to Nome early Tuesday. Seavey, 53, pulled into the White Mountain checkpoint at 5:11 a.m., just 13 minutes ahead of the 43-year-old Zirkle. Four-time champion Jeff King, who had been leading the race, was in third place with a team that had slowed considerably.

Mushers are required to rest their teams for eight hours in White Mountain. From there, teams go to Safety, where the leaders likely will

take no rest before heading to Nome in hopes of winning. This year's champion is expected to reach the frontier town on Alaska's wind-pummeled coast late Tuesday or early Wednesday.

Others were closing in, including Ray Redington Jr., the grandson of race co-founder Joe Redington Sr. who was in fourth place. Defending champion Dallas Seavey, Mitch Seavey's 25-year-old son, was in fifth place. Nome favorite Aaron Burmeister was in sixth place behind Seavey as he raced toward his hometown. If he were to win the Iditarod, one local official said, it could be pandemonium.

The "place would come unglued," said Richard Beneville, the vice president of the Nome Chamber of Commerce.

Front-runners began traveling north along the frozen Bering Sea Coast on Sunday as they jockeyed for



Musher Mitch Seavey, left, talks with race marshal Mark Nordman after arriving at the Unalakleet, Alaska, checkpoint Sunday, March 10, 2013, during the Iditarod Trail Sled Dog Race.

Associated Press

the front of the line.

Seavey had been leading since Sunday and beat King to Koyuk by 34 minutes. He rested his team, then left three hours and two minutes after King.

"Only one thing to do," Seavey said in an Iditarod.com video. "I can't make speed without resting."

The race began March 2 with 66 teams at a ceremonial start in Anchorage. The competitive start began

the following day in Willow and has since changed leaders several times.

Five mushers have scratched. A sixth, Canadian Gerry Willomitzer, was withdrawn Sunday after losing a dog that was later found.

The first musher to reach Nome will win \$50,400 and a new 2013 Dodge Ram pickup truck. The rest of the \$600,000 purse will be split among the next 29 mushers

to cross the finish line.

As teams push toward Nome, the town of 3,700 was bustling with anticipation.

Inside the city's small convention center, which doubles as race headquarters, banners with each musher's name were being hung from the rafters by volunteers working with Alaska Missions.

The race was shaping up to have an exciting finish with so many front-runners clustered together.

But will it match the 1978 mad dash down Front Street that left Dick Mackey as the winner with one second to spare over Rick Swenson, who went on to become the Iditarod's only five-time champion?

"You know, it very well could be" race spokeswoman Erin McLarnon said. "The way the things are looking right now, it could be one of those close ones." □

Nibali wins Tirreno ahead of Froome, Contador

SAN BENEDETTO DEL TRONTO, Italy (AP) — Vincenzo Nibali of Italy successfully defended his title in the weeklong Tirreno-Adriatico race while world champion Tony Martin won the concluding time trial on Tuesday.

Nibali, who rides for Astana, finished 23 seconds ahead of Tour de France runner-up Chris Froome, while Alberto Contador placed third overall, 52 seconds back.

Martin, the German riding for Omega Pharma-Quick Step and the two-time world champion in time trials, clocked 10 minutes, 25 seconds over the flat 9.2-kilometer (5.7-mile) course in



San Benedetto del Tronto. Italy's Adriano Malori was second in the stage, six seconds behind, Costa Rica's Andrey Amador was third, 10 seconds back, and Swiss standout Fabian Cancell

lari was fourth, 12 seconds behind.

Froome was sixth on the day, 15 seconds behind, and Nibali crossed comfortably in 12th, 26 seconds back.

Nibali set up the victory by winning Monday's penultimate stage, which many riders abandoned partway because of wet conditions, with an attack on

a dangerous downhill section.

Nibali will also be a favorite for Sunday's Milan-San Remo classic.

"It was a tough 9 kilometers today but I had a good lead so I just stayed calm," Nibali said. "San Remo is another big race and I hope I can do well there also." □

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Liver Fire

As we approach the clinic, a gentleman is quietly waiting for his first Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) consultation. Several other people seem restless and anxious, talking loudly, almost shouting although they have only been sitting for a short time. After a long unusual season of rain, most of us are grateful to sit in the sunshine and invite the trade winds back.

However, although it is not yet the time of "high winds" as spring nears, we have bursts of the heavy breezes, which are the trade mark of our Island. The tropical sun can be unbearable with no wind, but for some, heavy wind becomes just as unbearable. In the Peoples Republic of China, we called the destructive effects of high wind, "wind evil."

Most people can withstand the negative consequences of gale force wind, but some, who have been consuming greasy or otherwise unhealthy foods, drinking too much alcohol or working too much the wind may bring a "sickness."

Anger, frustration, resentment and hatred over a long period of time can also make one susceptible to the negative effects of wind. Today's group brings a mix of symptoms and complaints which has not been relieved by other methods. We will begin

now, with anemia, menstrual problems, pale, fungus or easily broken fingernails, then liver problems, headaches, high blood pressure, eye and ear troubles, difficulty sleeping or waking up between 1 and 3 am. We find a whole host of stomach problems, swollen or painful chest or breast, heart palpitations, not being able to swallow in spite of no throat infection. Some "wind" affected people can be spotted from afar. They have a green hue around their mouths. Some as they walk into clinic leave a trail of strong perfume being used to cover up a sour body smell. Some people can barely walk in before they exclaim that they are "going crazy."

The wind will get stronger as spring approaches. With more wind, more people with "affected livers" will arrive. Many will hear me say "Your liver is hot!" "What? Is something wrong with my liver? I just checked and my house/family doctor said that everything was normal on my blood tests"

A "hot" or "Liver Fire" will not show up on any medical test, except as possible liver hepatitis. If a medical symptom cannot be measured on a lab test, does it really exist? To some doctors, if all the medical tests come back "negative," then the

problem is "in your head." Oriental Medical Doctors (OMD), look at human organs from a different perspective than standard or Western medicine. Western medicine studies only physical aspects of the organs. OMD's are trained to look at the amount of energy an organ uses in relation to the other organs. We use the heart beat of both radial pulses to determine the amount of energy being or not being used by each organ. We "read" or feel the pulse on both hands to evaluate 29 organ functions. Each pulse position tells us about a different organ and their relationships to each other.

For example, if there is no pulse in the Kidney position, we know that the adrenal gland, which sits on top of the kidneys, is working overtime. This can interrupt proper sleep. Without sufficient Kidney Yin, there is no "Yin" energy to send to the Liver. If the liver has no Yin energy, hyperthyroidism or over-active thyroid, hypertension or high blood pressure, and/or eye problems develop because of "Liver Fire." If these deficiencies persist, the "Liver Fire" rises and begins to affect the stomach and heart. Deficient Heart Yin turns sleep problems into full blown insomnia, sometimes with heart palpitations and hearing problems.

Unchecked, this becomes "Heart Fire Blazing Upwards" which can be felt in the throat as "something there," mucus or a "lump." Some people have their adenoids or tonsils and even thyroid removed with the feeling continuing. When the "Fire Blazing Upwards" reaches the head, symptoms include; ringing in the ears, dry, watery or twitching eyes, headaches and migraines.

Adrenaline that is being over-produced stimulates the sympathetic nervous system. This makes the heart beat faster, closes or dilates the blood vessels and relaxes the bronchial tubes. Blood Pressure can rise and emotional problems begin many times leading to prescription tranquilizing medication.

Get The Point! People coming to clinic complaining of unexplained anger, stomach problems, heart problems, a feeling that "something is stuck in m throat", headaches at the temples, dizziness, the list goes on; yet, they are all suffering from liver fire. Natural herbs and acupuncture quickly start feeling better. We are entering the time of year when liver have a tendency to "blaze" upwards producing all these possible symptoms. Want to feel better? Come in so we can check the function of your liver and make sure you are as healthy as you can be.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having stud-



By: Dr. Carlos Viana

ied in Shanghai, China; a Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), a fellow member of the Board Certified Association of Addiction Professionals (C.Ad.), the Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist and specializes in Anti-Aging Medicine, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA NATURAL HEALING CENTER NV, Kibaima 7, Aruba, TEL: 585-1270, Web Site: www.vianaheal.com

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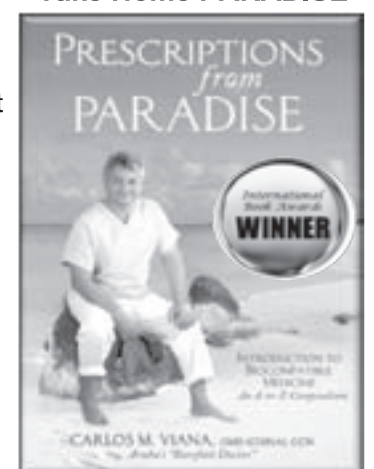
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Google pays \$7M fine to settle Wi-Fi privacy case

MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Technology Writer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) —

Google will pay a \$7 million fine to settle a multistate investigation into a snoop software program that enabled the Internet search leader to intercept emails, passwords and other sensitive information sent several years ago over unprotected wireless networks in neighborhoods across the world. The agreement announced Tuesday covers 38 states and the District of Columbia, part of the area where households and local merchants unwittingly had some of their communications on Wi-Fi networks snatched by Google Inc. from early 2008 until the spring of 2010.

Google stopped the data collection in May 2010, shortly before the company revealed cars taking street-level photos for

its online mapping service also had been grabbing information transmitted over Wi-Fi networks that had been set up in homes and businesses without requiring a password to gain access. The company blamed the intrusion on a rogue engineer who rigged a data-collection program into equipment that was supposed to only detect basic information about local Wi-Fi networks to help plot the locations of people using its mapping service and other products. After concluding its own investigation, the Federal Communications Commission last year asserted that some of Google's managers knew about the engineer's plan to vacuum information being transmitted over the Wi-Fi networks.

Google hasn't identified the engineer who set up the data-collection program. The surveillance triggered outrage among privacy watchdogs and government investigations in more than a dozen countries. The backlash so far has been more of a public relations blow than a financial setback for Google, which has embraced "Don't Be Evil" as its corporate motto. Even as it repeatedly apologized for a breach of online etiquette, Google insisted that it didn't break any laws in the U.S. The company is maintaining that

position in the multistate investigation by entering into a settlement that doesn't include any admission of wrongdoing.

Google, based in Mountain View, California, released another contrite statement Tuesday.

"We work hard to get privacy right at Google," the company said. "But in this case we didn't, which is why we quickly tightened up our systems to address the issue."

The multistate agreement requires Google to destroy the personal data that it collected from the Wi-Fi networks, unless a lawsuit or other legal action requires the information to be preserved. A series of class-action lawsuits are still being appealed in San Francisco federal court.

Google says it never looked at the data, although regulators in other countries have reviewed the information as part of their investigations. Canadian regulators said Google had obtained the full names, telephone numbers and address of some people using the unprotected Wi-Fi networks. In France regulators found that Google had grabbed an email exchange between a married man and woman discussing a possible affair and other information about sexual preferences. The Wi-Fi snooping is just the latest of several incidents



New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg speaks during a news conference, Tuesday, Jan. 8, 2013 in New York.

Associated Press

that have raised questions about Google's commitment to privacy. In the past three years, Google also has been reprimanded by U.S. regulators for exposing the personal contact lists of its email account holders when it started a service called Buzz in 2010 and for secretly tracking the online activities of Web surfers using Apple Inc.'s Safari Web browser last year. The Safari surveillance resulted in the Federal Trade Commission fining Google \$22.5 million last year.

The FCC also fined Google \$25,000 last year for obstructing its investigation into the Wi-Fi spying. The \$7 million fine that Google is paying the states and District of Columbia is the biggest U.S. penalty imposed on Google so far for Wi-Fi spying. It amounts to a speck on Google's financial statement. The company brings in an average of \$7 million per hour,

based on its projected revenue of \$61 billion this year. The penalty won't be enough to prevent Google from continuing to be a "serial privacy violator," according to John Simpson, privacy project director for Consumer Watchdog, a frequent critic of the company. Connecticut, the lead state in the Wi-Fi investigation, will get the largest cut from the fine — nearly \$521,000.

Other states getting a share are: Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Mississippi, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Virginia and Washington. □



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US employers post more jobs, cut less workers

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. employers advertised more job openings in January, suggesting that hiring will remain healthy in coming months.

Job openings rose 2.2 percent in January from December to 3.69 million, the Labor Department said Tuesday. Openings had fallen nearly 5 percent in December, and they remain below November's level of nearly 3.8 million.

Yet the report provided further evidence that the U.S. job market is strengthening. Employers laid off the fewest workers in January than in any month since records began in 2001. And the number of Americans who quit their jobs rose to the highest in more than four years. People usually quit when they have another job, so more quitting suggests it is easier to find work. The biggest increase in job openings was in professional and business services, which includes high-paying fields such as accounting, engineering, and architecture. It also includes temp jobs, which typically carry few benefits. The next-largest gain

was in retail. On Friday, the government reported that hiring in February was robust: Employers added 236,000 jobs, and the unemployment rate fell from 7.9 percent in January to a four-year low of 7.7 percent. February capped a fourth-month hiring spree in which employers added an average of 205,000 jobs

of nearly 7 unemployed people competing for each job in July 2009. But in a healthy economy, the ratio is roughly 2 to 1. The report, known as the Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, or JOLTS, calculates total hiring, layoffs and quits. By contrast, the department's monthly jobs report measures the



Ann Oganessian, left, of Newton, Mass., pauses as she speaks with a State Department employee about job opportunities with the federal government during a job fair in Boston.

(AP Photo/Michael Dwyer)

a month. At the same time, the competition for open positions remains strong. About 12.3 million people were unemployed in January, which means there were 3.3 unemployed people, on average, competing for each job. That's sharply down from a peak

unemployment rate and net hiring. Net hiring equals total hiring minus layoffs, quits and other separations. Since the recession ended in June 2009, total hiring hasn't increased as fast as job openings have. Businesses have been slow to fill vacancies. □

Hostess: No other bids to buy Twinkies

CANDICE CHOI

AP Food Industry Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Hostess is moving ahead with plans to sell its Twinkies and other iconic American snack cakes after nobody stepped forward to top an offer made by two investment firms.

The bankrupt company had earlier picked a \$410 million joint offer from Metropoulos & Co. and Apollo Global Management as the "stalking horse" bid to set the floor for an auction. Others were then given a chance to submit competing offers and Hostess CEO Greg Rayburn had predicted the process would be "wild and wooly."

But in a document filed in U.S. bankruptcy court on Monday, Hostess Brands said no other qualified offers were submitted by the bid deadline. No auction

will be held as a result for the cakes, which include CupCakes, Ding Dongs and Ho Hos.

A spokesman for Hostess said the company had no comment on the lack of competing bids. A representative for Apollo, whose investments include the fast-food chains Carl's Jr. and Hardee's, declined to comment on when Hostess cakes might return to shelves.

Without providing details, Metropoulos CEO Dean Metropoulos said in a statement that he looked forward to bringing back Hostess cakes "as soon as possible."

Metropoulos also owns Pabst beer.

Hostess had also canceled an auction for its Wonder and other major bread brands after no competing offers were made. Those

breads are being sold to Flowers Foods, which is based in Thomasville, Georgia, and makes Tastykakes and Nature's Own bread.

The final sales of the breads and Hostess snack cakes are set to be approved in bankruptcy court on March 19.

McKee Foods, which makes Little Debbie snack cakes, was picked as the lead bidder for Drake's cakes, which include Devil Dogs, Funny Bones and Yodels. The deadline to submit competing offers for those snack cakes is Tuesday, with an auction set for Friday.

Hostess, based in Irving, Texas, stopped making its cakes and breads in late November after it announced it was going out of business and closing its plants following years of financial struggles. □

Changes add up to dollars

Nedra Rhone

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ATLANTA -- Keeping New Year's resolutions can be a challenge -- particularly when they have to do with money. But making small adjustments to your finances consistently throughout the year can dramatically improve your financial picture.

Mechel Glass, vice president of community outreach for Atlanta-based nonprofit CredAbility, offers a few simple things you can do to help keep the momentum going:

Track every dollar you spend for 30 days. If you don't have money left at the end of each pay period, or you can't save money, it's time to start tracking it. For just 30 days, write down every penny you spend. Review this list for expenses that can be reduced or eliminated. Small changes can add up to big savings and can help you reach your goals more quickly. Use the budget calculator from CredAbility to help you track your expenses, or use the free Pocket Tracker app available for iPhone.

Put \$10 a week in the bank. Even if you think you are living paycheck to paycheck, it is possible for you to save money. You can save as little as \$10 each week just by making simple changes. Here are five ways to save \$10 or more:

1. Eliminate your home phone. If you only use your cell phone, consider turning off your land line or at least reducing your services to the bare minimum.
2. Have coffee at home. Skipping your morning coffee out can add up to quick savings.
3. Bring your lunch and snacks to work. Limit lunch out to once or twice a week.
4. Skip the lottery tickets. You will be better served by putting that money in a savings account.
5. Avoid unnecessary trips and carpool when possible. Gas prices are on the rise, and sharing commuting costs can add up to

big savings.

Ask for lower rates on your bills. You can reduce your auto insurance costs and bills for your cable, cell phone and credit cards with a simple phone call. Do some comparison shopping on auto insurance rates and call your carrier to see how you might reduce your premiums. Your cable company might be able to lower your monthly bill or offer you a special promotion for a period of time that can result in savings.

Tuck away those savings in a CD or IRA. Don't scrape by each month only to fritter it away the next month.



Take your savings from the 30 days of scrimping and open a CD or an IRA. Putting the money in a regular online savings account won't work; it's too easy to reach in an emergency.

Raise your 401(k) contribution by 1 percent. As the economy improves, investment returns may improve. Instead of spending more money, consider investing an additional 1 percent of your income in your 401(k). For a person earning \$50,000 annually, 1 percent is \$500 -- about \$10 per week. Think about the amount of money you will earn over several years, as well as the tax benefits next year.

Every once in a while, use a credit card. Avoid a reduction in your credit line or having your credit cards canceled for lack of use. So pay a small expense with a credit card every 30 to 60 days. Then, pay off the credit card bill when it arrives. □

Dow ekes out 8th straight day of advances

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Markets Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dow Jones industrial average logged its longest winning streak in two years — barely. A tiny gain gave the Dow its eighth straight increase Tuesday, long enough to match its longest series of gains since February 2011. The Dow rose 2.77 points, or 0.02 percent, to 14,450.06, having wavered between small gains and losses for most of the day.

The broader Standard & Poor's 500 ended down 3.74 points, or 0.2 percent, at 1,552.48. The Nasdaq composite dropped 10.55 points, or 0.32 percent, to 3,242.32.

Stocks have surged this year as investors became encouraged by a recovery in the housing market and a pickup in hiring. Strong corporate earnings and continuing economic stimulus from the Federal Reserve are also supporting demand for stocks.

The Dow has gained 10.3 percent so far in 2013, and last week it surpassed its previous all-time high of 14,164.53. The S&P 500 has risen 8.9 percent this year and is less than 1 percentage point away from its record close of 1,565.15 set in October 2007.

David Bianco, chief U.S. equity strategist at Deutsche Bank, said the S&P 500 index will likely maintain its momentum in the coming weeks and surpass its

all-time high. Strong first-quarter corporate earnings reports could also push the market higher.

"I wouldn't be surprised if the market has a typical five percent pullback in the summer," said Bianco. "But I think we go higher before that happens."

The last significant downturn for stocks started before the Presidential elections in November, when the Dow fell 8 percent between Oct. 5 and Nov. 15 on concern that a divided government wouldn't be able to reach a budget deal to stop the U.S. going over the "fiscal cliff" of sweeping tax hikes and deep spending cuts.

Stocks haven't had a correction, typically defined as a decline of between 10 and 20 percent, since November 2011. That sell-off came after talks on cutting the U.S. deficit broke down in Washington. Merck was the biggest gainer in the Dow, advancing \$1.38, or 3.2 percent, to \$45.04 after the drugmaker said a data safety monitoring board recommended that a study of its cholesterol drug

Vytorin should continue. Peter Cardillo, chief market economist at Rockwell Global Capital, was also among those saying investors should expect a pause in the market's advance.

Fitch downgraded the country's credit rating on Friday due to political uncertainty there.

The Dow's biggest wobble this year came on Feb. 25, when it lost 1.6 percent af-

the U.S. and Europe.

The yield on the 10-year Treasury note, which moves inversely to its price, fell to 2.02 percent from 2.06 percent.

Among stocks making big moves:

— Yum Brands Inc. rose 89 cents, or 1.3 percent, to \$68.73 after the owner of KFC, Pizza Hut and Taco Bell announced a smaller-than-expected drop in its sales in China for the months of January and February following a food scare over its chicken suppliers.

— Diamond Foods slumped \$1.71, or 9.7 percent, to \$15.89 after the snack maker reported disappointing second-quarter sales and offered an estimate for the rest of the fiscal year that also fell short of Wall Street estimates.

— VeriFone Systems gained \$1.22, or 6 percent, to \$21.68 after the company, a leading maker of terminals for electronic payments, said late Monday that its CEO is stepping down after recent stumbles cut the company's stock price nearly in half. □



A board on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange shows the closing number for the Dow Jones industrial average, Tuesday, March 12, 2013. A tiny gain gave the Dow its eighth straight increase Tuesday, long enough to match its longest series of gains since February 2011. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

"Nothing goes up forever," Cardillo said. "We will be headed for a correction somewhere along the line."

Markets were mixed in Europe. Italy easily sold €7.75 billion (\$10 billion) in 12-month bonds, though at slightly higher interest rates. It was the first test of market sentiment since

ter inconclusive results from Italian elections pushed the country toward political gridlock, threatening its ability to follow through on unpopular budget cuts demanded by its European neighbors. That gave investors a flashback to last spring, when a flare-up in Europe's debt crisis sent markets spiraling lower in

Google paying \$15M in bonuses to top execs

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Google is paying nearly \$15 million in bonuses to four of the Internet company's top executives for their performances last year. Documents filed Tuesday disclosed Executive Chair-

man Eric Schmidt will get the biggest award at \$6 million to supplement his estimated fortune of \$8 billion. Schmidt served as Google Inc.'s CEO for a decade until he turned over the job to company

co-founder Larry Page nearly two years ago. Neither Page nor fellow co-founder Sergey Brin will get a bonus. That's been their custom since Google went public in 2004. The two men are each worth about

\$23 billion.

Google is paying a \$3.3 million bonus to its top lawyer, David Drummond. Two other key executives, Patrick Pichette and Nikesh Arora, are each getting bonuses of \$2.8 million. □

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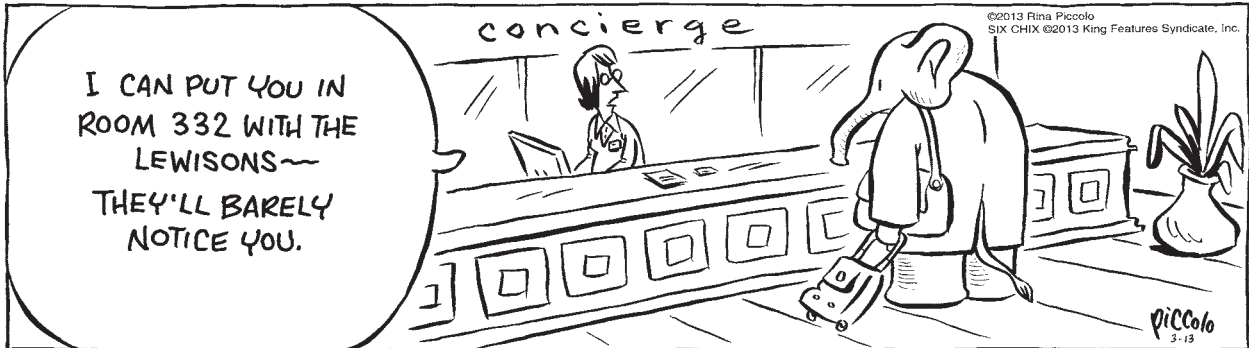


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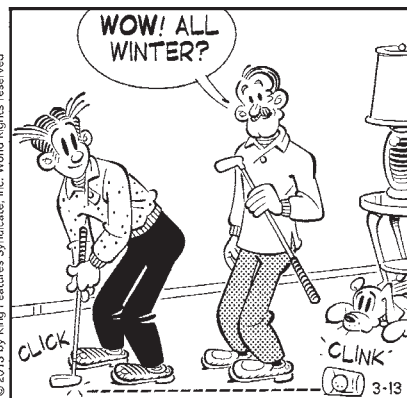
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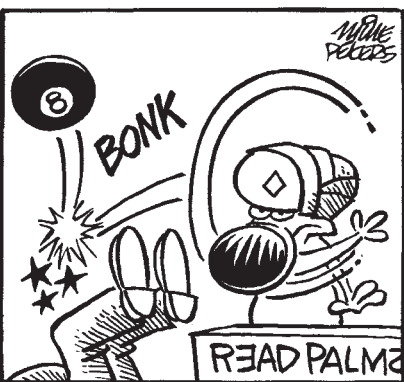
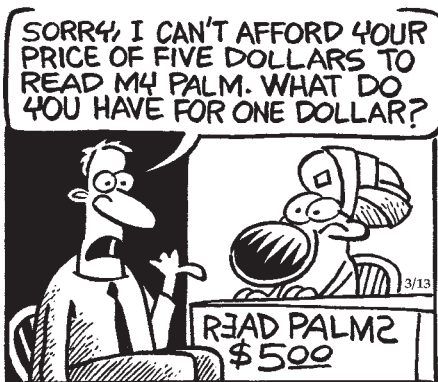
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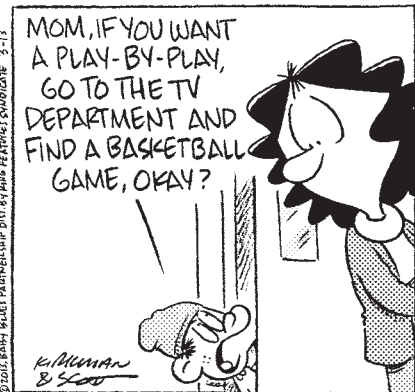
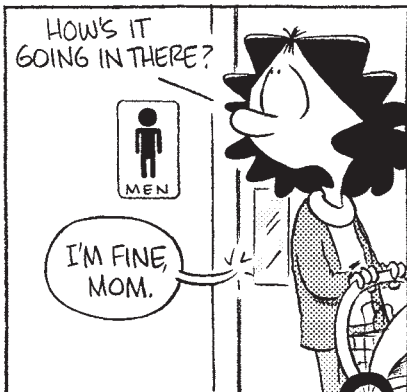
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Conceptis Sudoku

			1	5	6	3			
				1			8		
5		9						4	
1	9				5				7
	8							5	
6	5	7							2
9	6		3					7	
3				5	8	4			
			9	7					

Difficulty Level ★★★

3/13

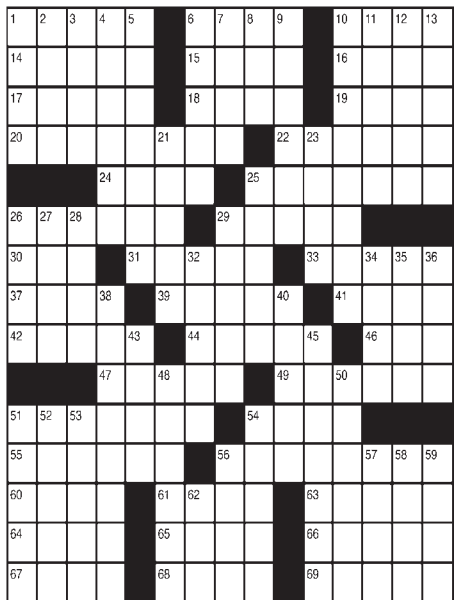
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

5	4	8	3	6	1	7	9	2
2	6	1	9	7	4	5	8	3
7	9	3	5	2	8	6	1	4
9	8	5	6	4	2	1	3	7
6	1	2	7	5	3	9	4	8
4	3	7	8	1	9	2	5	6
8	5	4	2	9	7	3	6	1
1	7	9	4	3	6	8	2	5
3	2	6	1	8	5	4	7	9

ACROSS

- Keep a cooking turkey moist
- Ladder rung
- One of the Three Bears
- Extreme
- Bangkok native
- Eras
- Make a smudge worse
- Feed bag morsels
- Marine bird
- Face on a 10-dollar bill
- Shrink back in fear or distaste
- __ up; bound
- Go in again
- Deteriorate
- Market walkway
- Yoko __
- Lion cries
- Bread ingredient
- Free __; personal choice
- Passenger
- Song for one
- Bar seat
- Day or Roberts
- Religious sister
- Recluse
- Cruise ships
- Clap
- Escape
- British peer
- Going astray
- Access code to a website
- Daytime serial
- Snatch
- Giggle's sound
- Aware of the shenanigans of
- British peer
- Of the largest continent
- Baby bird's cry
- Little child
- Narrative
- Clinton's successor
- __ mater; one's old school
- Zeal
- Helped
- Top-notch
- Insulting remark
- Flower stalk
- Characteristics
- Previously
- __ up; rose from a chair
- Rather __; instead of
- Consume
- Zodiac sign
- Afternoon performances
- Representative
- Come together
- Star of TV's "Lou Grant"
- Singing voice
- Depend
- Early __; one up with the sun
- Astonishes
- "Step __!"; plea to a slowpoke
- Chocolate-and-caramel candy
- 2,000-pound weights
- Sucker
- Small brooks
- Give, but expect back
- Afternoon naps
- Bit of gold
- Most modern
- Fable teller
- Lying flat
- Babble
- Fairy tale
- Leave the car
- Akron's state
- Fanny
- Declare untrue
- Sunbeam



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

3/13/13

Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

DEAL	BOARD	ALMS
AXLE	OILER	PAUL
NASA	SLIDE	PITA
AMOROUS	CABARET	
NUN	WADER	
ADDER	LAP	LENIN
TOED	EAT	ALLEG
INN	ALDENTE	ALE
LOSERS	RUM	PROD
TREAD	GET	PESOS
GORED	TEA	
VETERAN	BUTCHER	
OVER	VEGAN	HIRE
TILL	EVAS	EGGS
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3/13/13



Classifieds

Why failing helps you be successful

Dr. Gregory Ramey

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DAYTON, Ohio -- By one measure, Reggie Jackson was the greatest failure in his sport, having struck out 2,597 times in his 21-year career, more than any athlete who has ever played Major League Baseball. Despite these thousands of disappointments, Jackson is in baseball's Hall of Fame for his many accomplishments, including 563 home runs and five World Series championships.

Disappointments, whether trivial or traumatic, are a part of life. Some people get so upset when things or people don't live up to their expectations, while others simply take things in stride and move on. For some kids, a low score on a test is an incentive to study more. For others, it simply confirms their own self-doubts about their competence and they give up. Helping kids deal with failure and frustrations is critical to their success and happiness. According to recent research in the January publication of Child Trends, adolescents who have such resiliency have several characteristics in common.

1. Caring adults. Parents, coaches, teachers and other adults are extremely important in the lives of adolescents. Kids who have kind and considerate people in their lives are much more likely to deal well with failure. These teens have the social support of people who care, and thus they tend not to overreact to disappointments. These adults also serve an important role of guiding teens in how to interpret unpleasant events and develop strategies to avoid problems in the future.
2. Good thinking skills.

Teens who are resilient think differently about the world than kids who overreact to stress. They have the ability to think about issues, consider options and take positive actions. One of my former clients got very depressed every weekend if her friends didn't invite her to do something. She never considered all of the other things she could do, such as reach out to other kids, volunteer at an animal shelter or pursue a hobby. □

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Mars rover shows planet could have supported life

By ALICIA CHANG

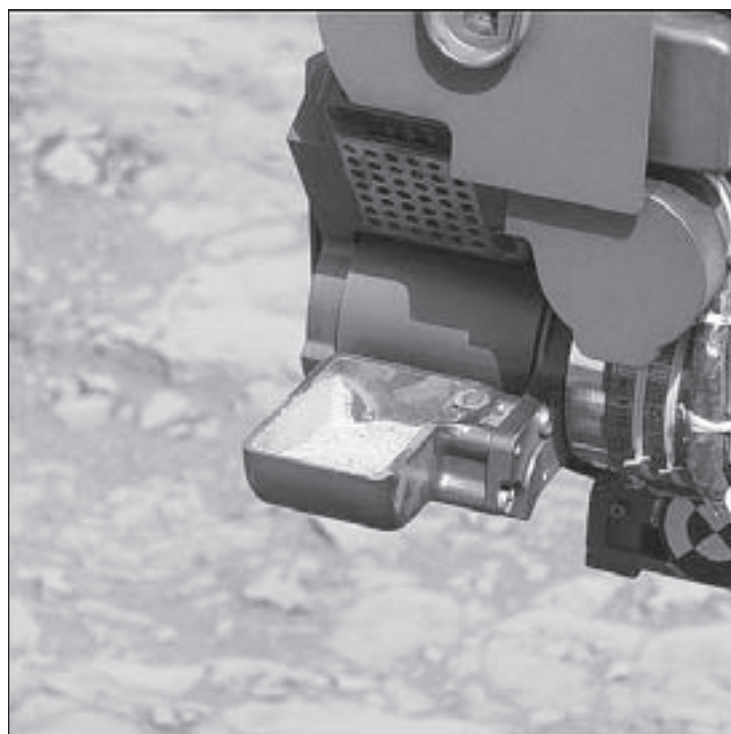
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Drilling into a rock near its landing spot, the Curiosity rover has answered a key question about Mars: The red planet long ago harbored some of the ingredients needed for primitive life to thrive.

Topping the list is evidence of water and basic elements that teeny organisms could feed on, scientists said Tuesday.

"We have found a habitable environment that is so benign and supportive of life that probably if this water was around and you had been on the planet, you would have been able to drink it," said chief scientist John Grotzinger of the California Institute of Technology.

The discovery comes seven months after Curiosity touched down in an ancient crater. Last month, it flexed its robotic arm to drill into a fine-grained, veiny rock and then tested the powder in its onboard labs. Curiosity is the first spacecraft sent to Mars that



This image released by NASA shows the Curiosity rover holding a scoop of powdered rock on Mars. The rover recently drilled into a Martian rock for the first time and transferred a pinch of powder to its instruments to analyze the chemical makeup.

Associated Press

could collect a sample from deep inside a rock, and scientist said they hit pay dirt with that first rock. Mars today is a hostile, frigid desert, constantly bombarded by radiation. Previous missions have found that the planet was more

tropical billions of years ago. And now scientists have their first evidence of a habitable environment outside of Earth.

This was an environment where microbes "could have lived in and maybe even prospered in," Grotzinger said.

The car-size rover made a dramatic "seven-minutes-of-terror" landing last August near the planet's equator. As high-tech as Curiosity is, it lacks the tools to detect actual microbes, living or extinct. It can only use its chemistry lab to examine Martian rocks to determine the kind of environment they might have lived in.

The analysis revealed the rock that Curiosity bore into contained a chemical soup of sulfur, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, phosphorus and simple carbon — essential chemical ingredients for life. Also present were clay and sulfate

minerals, signs that the rock formed in a watery environment.

NASA rovers Opportunity and Spirit — before it fell silent — also uncovered evidence of a wet Martian past elsewhere on the planet, but scientists think the water would have been too acidic for microbes.

The ancient water at Curiosity's pit stop — possibly a former lake bed — appears to be neutral and not too salty. It previously found a hint of the site's watery past — an old streambed that the six-wheel rover crossed to get to the flat bedrock.

Curiosity has yet to turn up evidence of complex carbon compounds, fundamental to all living things. Scientists said a priority is to search for a place where organics might be preserved.

The drilled rock isn't far from Curiosity's landing spot in Gale Crater; the rover is ultimately headed to a mountain in the crater's middle. Images from space spied signs of clay layers at the base of the mountain

— a good spot to hunt for the elusive organics.

It has been slow going as engineers learn to handle the rover, which is far more tech-savvy than anything that has landed before on Earth's planetary neighbor. Over the years, Mars spacecraft in orbit and on the surface have beamed back a wealth of information about the planet's geology. Scientists have also been able to study rocks from Mars that have occasionally landed on Earth.

The latest news comes during a lull in the two-year, \$2.5 billion mission. Curiosity has been prevented from doing science experiments as engineers troubleshoot a computer problem.

Scientists still plan to drive toward the mountain, but not until Curiosity drills into another rock at its current location. Since flight controllers on Earth will be out of touch with Mars spacecraft for most of next month due to a planetary alignment, the second drilling won't get under way until May. □

Ancient Arctic camel linked to modern breed

OTTAWA (AP) — Ancient, mummified camel bones dug from the tundra confirm that the animals now synonymous with the arid sands of Arabia actually developed in subfreezing forests in what is now Canada's High Arctic, a scientist said Tuesday.

About 3.5 million years ago, Strathcona Fiord on Ellesmere Island's west-central coast would have looked more like a northern forest than an Arctic landscape, said paleobotanist Natalia

Rybczynski of the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa.

"Larch-dominated, lots of wetlands, peat," said Rybczynski, lead author of a study published Tuesday in the journal *Nature Communications*. Nearby fossil sites have yielded evidence of ancient bears, horses, deer, badgers and frogs. The average yearly temperature would have been about 0 Celsius (32 Fahrenheit).

The Arctic camel was 30 percent larger than modern camels, she said. Her best guess is it was one-humped.

Although native camels are now only found in Africa and Asia, scientists have long believed the species actually developed in North America and later died out. Camel remains have been previously found in the Yukon. □

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AP NewsBreak: Dylan voted into elite arts academy

HILLEL ITALIE

AP National Writer

If he lived in England, he'd surely be Sir Bob Dylan.

The most influential songwriter of his time has become the first rock star voted into the elite, century-old American Academy of Arts and Letters, where artists range from Philip Roth to Jasper Johns and categories include music, literature and visual arts. According to executive director Virginia Dajani, officials couldn't decide whether he belonged for his words or for his music, so they settled on making him an honorary member, joining such previous choices as Meryl Streep, Woody Allen and a filmmaker who has made a documentary about Dylan, Martin Scorsese.

"The board of directors considered the diversity of his work and acknowledged his iconic place in the American culture," Dajani said recently. "Bob

Dylan is a multi-talented artist whose work so thoroughly crosses several disciplines that it defies categorization."

Dylan's manager, Jeff Rosen, had no immediate comment on Dylan's reaction — Dylan did accept membership, a condition for the vote to go through — or whether he would attend the academy's April dinner or May induction ceremony. Dylan usually tours in the spring and is already booked for much of April for shows in the East and Midwest, none of them in the New York City area.

"I would guess it's unlikely," Dajani said of whether Dylan would show up for either occasion.

On Tuesday, the academy announced three other honorary choices, all from overseas: Spanish architect Rafael Moneo, South African writer Damon Galgut and Belgian artist Luc Tuymans. Voted into the

academy's core membership were the novelist Ward Just, known for his stories set in Washington, D.C.; the influential minimalist artist Richard Tuttle and the acclaimed painter and printmaker Terry Winters.

Excluding honorary picks, the academy consists of 250 artists, musicians and writers. Openings occur upon a member's death, with current inductees nominating and voting in new ones. Members have no real responsibilities beyond agreeing to join, although some become active in the academy, which awards prizes worth as much as \$200,000.

Founded in 1898 and based in upper Manhattan, the academy once was designed to keep the likes of Dylan away, shunning everyone from jazz artists to modernist poets. Even now, the vast majority of the musicians come from the classical community, with exceptions in-



In this Jan. 12, 2012 file photo, Bob Dylan performs during the 17th Annual Critics' Choice Movie Awards in Los Angeles. Associated Press

cluding Stephen Sondheim and Ornette Coleman. Dajani and other officials have said that the academy is reluctant to vote in rock performers because they already have organizations, such as the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, to honor them.

He's routinely mentioned as a Nobel candidate and for decades has been scru-

tinized obsessively by academics and popular critics. Dylan has had fans and even friends in the academy, among them the late poet Allen Ginsberg. A Dylan admirer and 2012 inductee, Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Michael Chabon, will give the keynote address at the May ceremony. The title will be "Rock 'n' Roll." □

Sean Penn's Haiti charity receives \$8.75 million

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)

— An aid group run by Hollywood actor Sean Penn announced Tuesday it is receiving \$8.75 million from the World Bank to help move Haitians off of a golf course where many have been living since the January 2010 earthquake.

A statement from a public relations firm for Penn said that the money will go for rent subsidies or for new housing units.

Some 14,000 people still live at the Petionville Club in plywood shacks still living in the camp. Sixty thousand lived there at one point.

The people are to be moved out by early 2014. Penn is an ambassador-at-large for Haiti. He uses the post to raise awareness about the nation still struggling to recover from the disaster.

Penn's J/P Haitian Relief Organization took responsibility for the impromptu settlement a couple of months after the quake,



Actor-director Sean Penn gestures as he participates in a discussion at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government in Cambridge, Mass. Associated Press

which destroyed thousands of buildings. The number of people displaced by the quake has dropped from a high of 1.5 million people to more than 347,000 now, according to the International Organization for Migration, an aid group that seeks to help people displaced by disaster and conflict. □



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Reports: Iran plans suing Hollywood over 'Argo'

NASSER KARIMI
Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran (AP) — Iran is planning to sue Hollywood over the Oscar-winning "Argo" because of the movie's allegedly "unrealistic portrayal" of the country, Iranian media reported Tuesday.

Several news outlets, including the pro-reform Shargh daily, said French lawyer Isabelle Coutant-Peyre is in Iran for talks with officials over how and where to file the lawsuit. She is also the lawyer for notorious Venezuelan-born terrorist Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, known as Carlos the Jackal.

Following the 1979 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran, 52 Americans were held hostage for 444 days, but six embassy staffers were sheltered by the Canadian ambassador. Their escape, using a fake movie as a cover story, is recounted in "Argo."



In this Wednesday, Oct. 10, 2012 file photo, director and actor Ben Affleck poses for photographers at the premiere of his film *Argo* in Washington, DC, USA.

Associated Press

After its Oscar win in February, Iranian officials dismissed "Argo" as pro-CIA, anti-Iran propaganda. The lawyer told the semi-official Mehr news agency that she will start a campaign to show that *Argo* is a lie, while pressing to stop distribution of the movie.

"We will be able to block distributors of the movie, force them to apologize and challenge them to confess that the movie is nothing but a sheer lie," the lawyer said. Though the movie isn't showing in any Iranian theaters, many Iranians have

seen it on bootleg DVDs and it set off a spirited debate that exposed a generational divide. Iranians who took part in the 1979 Islamic Revolution picked apart the portrayals of Tehran at the time but those too young to recall the events were eager for a different view on what had happened.

The decision on the lawsuit came after a group of Iranian cultural officials and movie critics screened the film in a closed audience in a Tehran theater late Monday.

The gathering, titled "The Hoax of Hollywood," discussed various legal aspects of filing a lawsuit, media reports said, without providing details. It remains unclear what specific charges Iran could raise and what court Tehran could turn to if the action goes ahead.

Those at the meeting dismissed "Argo" as a "violation of international cultural norms." A statement issued after the gathering said that "awarding an anti-Iran movie is a propaganda attack against our nation and entire humanity."

The statement did not clarify how the movie was allegedly unrealistic, but officials have accused "Argo" of depicting Iranians as "too violent."

They have also said the movie's director did not refer to other documentaries on the embassy storming or discuss reasons for the crisis, which included simmering resentment against the United States for a CIA-aided counter-coup in 1953 that toppled democratically elected Prime Minister Mohammad Mosaddegh and restored the pro-Western monarchy in Iran.

This was not the first time Iran has claimed that Hollywood has pushed a distorted picture of the country. In 2009, Iran demanded an apology from a team of visiting Hollywood actors and movie industry officials, including Annette Bening, saying films such as "300" and "The Wrestler" were "insulting" to Iranians. In 2007, the hit American movie "300" angered Iranians who said the Greeks-versus-Persians action flick insults their ancient culture and provokes animosity against Iran. □

Berry Gordy to be honored by Songwriters Hall gala

NEW YORK (AP) — Berry Gordy will be honored at this year's Songwriters Hall of Fame gala.

The organization announced Tuesday that the Motown founder will receive the Pioneer Award at its 44th annual induction ceremony on June 13 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City.

The award was established last year to honor people who have "been a major influence on generations of songwriters." It was presented posthumously to Woody Guthrie.

As the head of Motown, Gordy helped establish careers and hits for Diana Ross and the Supremes, Stevie Wonder, The Temptations, and Michael Jack-



This March 5, 2013 photo shows Berry Gordy posing for a portrait in New York.

Associated Press

son and The Jackson Five. A Broadway musical about Gordy's life, "Motown: The Musical," debuted this week.

Previously announced inductees include Tony Hatch, Mick Jones and Lou Gramm, Holly Knight, JD Souther, Steven Tyler and Joe Perry. □

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As Time Goes Bye



MAUREEN DOWD
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Auspicious my debut at Time was not.

In 1981, I started working in the Washington bureau of the news-magazine famously mocked by The New Yorker's Wolcott Gibbs for its inverted Homeric style. "Backward ran sentences until reeled the mind," Gibbs satirized. "Where it all will end, knows God!"

I thought my first Monday morning story conference would be my last. The bureau chief wanted to see how we felt about the prospect of a Time cover on salt. He called on me first.

"My mom puts salt on everything," I replied. "She's not worried about it."

A veteran reporter across the table looked at me scornfully. "He's talking about SALT II," she sneered, referring to the Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty between the U.S. and the Soviets. I cringed. But to my astonishment, the bureau chief corrected my tormentor. "No," he said, "I'm talking about table salt."

That's the kind of place Time was. One week, the Ayatollah Khomeini was the villain on the cover, the next week, Salt the Killer. One week, you worked on Gadhafi hit squads; the next, cats. (I got a byline on the cat cover for a penetrating interview with a cat psychologist named Fox who did Swedish massages on Burmese felines.)

"Father Time," Henry Luce, wanted everything in his magazine to be either "epic" or "titillating trivialities." Luce and his fellow Yalies started Time in 1923 with a breezy tone, snazzy adjectives and the promise to keep "busy men" informed, concisely.

Headlines about Time Warner's breakup with Time Inc. sent me into a reverie about my salad days in Time's glory days. In "The American Century," as Luce dubbed it, nabbing the cover of Time was the most coveted honor in our culture. Now the humbled magazine, bleeding ad revenue like the rest of print media, is facing a future, as The New York Post's Keith Kelly put it, "untethered from the Time Warner mother ship," which prefers to focus on its two better-performing children, TV and film.

After my stint in Washington, Time moved me to the New York headquarters, with its "Mad Men" aura of whiskey, cigarettes, four-hour sodden lunches and illicit liaisons. (Partake of which, unfortunately, I did not.) The researchers, a largely female staff, were referred to as "the vestal virgins."

To paraphrase Samuel Johnson, a woman's writing about national affairs was like a dog's walking on its hind legs; that we could do it at all was seen by some older editors as surprising.

On Friday nights, when the magazine was going to bed, there were sumptuous platters of roast beef rolled in, and bars in editors' offices.

Sometimes you'd go in a senior writer's office as the drinking wore on and just see two feet sticking out from under the desk, like the scene in "The Wizard of Oz" when the house falls on the witch.

It was a plummy time when a top editor could arrive in Paris and think nothing of sending a staffer from Paris to London to fetch a necktie he had left in his hotel room, or of sending a minion flying off to fetch a box of his favorite cigars, or of having articles about the Nicaraguan contras flown to his Martha's Vineyard house so he could make sure the political tilt was right.

Mere writers got to expense dial-a-cabs out to the Hamptons after working late Fridays, at \$150 a pop; and people rarely shared, snaking out to Sag Harbor in a pampered convoy.

Even then, it struck me that newsmagazines were doomed, with the strange bifurcation of reporters who were not allowed to write and writers who were not allowed to report. I reckoned the genre had a few years at most. When Time named the computer the Machine of the Year for 1982, we were still writing on typewriters.

A Time cover does not mean the same thing in a world of pure media entropy. Now, if something hits, it hits; if it doesn't, there's another thing coming along in a minute, somewhere else.

Journalism, spooked by rumors of its own obsolescence, has stopped believing in itself. Groans of doom alternate with panicked happy talk.

Before this sends yet another shudder through the media establishment, remember this: It may be a funeral for the Henry Luce era, but it's not a funeral for us. We can't wear black crepe every time someone prefers to read on a tablet; we can't be like the auto industry and the GOP, who got accustomed to waiting around for it to be 1965 again. It will be good if this moment provokes a reckoning about what really needs to be preserved in the culture, about what is valuable.

Many content providers and managers — formerly known as reporters and editors — have stopped believing in their own value and necessity. But the gatekeepers in the content class have to understand the world in which we're living and wield their judgment.

Digital platforms are worthless without content. They're shiny sacks with bells and whistles, but without content, they're empty sacks.

It is not about pixels versus print. It is not about how you're reading. It is about what you're reading. □



A 'New Normal' In College Debt



CHARLES M. BLOW
© 2013 New York Times

We are reaching a crisis point in this country's higher education system.

As college tuitions rise and state and local funding for higher education falls — along with median household incomes — students are taking on staggering levels of debt. And many can't find jobs that pay well enough to quickly pay off the debt. This has long-term implications for our society and our economy, as that debt begins to affect when and if young people start families or enter the housing market.

The student debt crisis may become a dangerous "new normal," according to a report this week by the nonprofit State Higher Education Executive Officers:

"In the 'new normal,' retirement and health care costs simultaneously drive up the cost of higher education, and compete with education for limited public resources. The 'new normal' no longer expects to see a recovery of state support for higher education such as occurred repeatedly in the last half of the 20th century. The 'new normal' expects students and their families to continue to make increasingly greater financial sacrifices in order to complete a postsecond-

ary education. The 'new normal' expects schools and colleges to find ways of increasing productivity and absorb ever-larger budget cuts, while increasing degree production without, we hope, compromising quality."

In constant dollars, state and local educational appropriations per full-time student reached their high in 2001, at \$8,670. In 2012, those appropriations fell by nearly one third, to just \$5,896.

The cost of tuition, on the other hand, has increased dramatically. According to a September report by CNN Money: "Over the past decade, average annual tuition for a year of community college has risen 40 percent to \$3,122, according to the College Board, a nonprofit group that runs the SAT exam. At 4-year public universities, the cost has risen 68 percent to \$7,692 a year."

Meanwhile, a September census report shows, median household incomes fell by nearly 7 percent from 2001 to 2011. And there are now more Americans living in poverty than at any time since record-keeping began more than half a century ago.

This confluence of trends has led to higher borrowing by students. An analysis last month by Donghoon Lee, an economist at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, found that "student debt is the only kind of household debt that continued to rise through the Great Recession" and is now the "second largest balance after mortgage debt."

According to Lee, student loan debt is fast approaching \$1 trillion, up from less than \$400 billion in 2004, and both the number of borrowers and the average balance per borrower have "increased by 70 percent between 2004 and 2012 (7 percent per year)." A September Pew Research Center report found that "a record one-in-five households now owe student loan debt."

That report also found that stu-

dent loan debt as a share of household income was 24 percent for families in the lowest income quintile. That was at least twice the share of any other quintile.

As the report put it, "The relative burden of student loan debt is greatest for households in the bottom fifth of the income spectrum, even though members of such households are less likely than those in other groups to attend college in the first place."

And many of those graduates can't find work or are underemployed, and they struggle to pay back their own personal mountain of debt.

A January report from the Center for College Affordability and Productivity found that "about 48 percent of employed U.S. college graduates are in jobs that the Bureau of Labor Statistics suggests requires less than a four-year college education." That number included 37 percent in occupations requiring no more than a high school diploma.

For example, the report pointed out that "in 1970, fewer than one percent of taxi drivers and two percent of firefighters had college degrees, while now more than 15 percent do in both jobs." And yet, this country needs a more knowledgeable workforce to be competitive. While the number of college graduates in America is increasing, that number is growing even faster in some other countries. And, as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development noted in 2011, "The U.S. is the only country where attainment levels among those just entering the labor market (25-34-year-olds) do not exceed those about to leave the labor market (55-64-year-olds)."

Our national educational aspirations and the debt crisis that they're creating are colliding. We are on an unsustainable track. This will not end well. □

Retirees choosing intergenerational cohousing

PHYLLIS KORKKI

© 2013 New York Times

There seems to be a rule that if retirees move to a communal environment, it must consist only of other retirees. But some older adults are challenging that notion by choosing intergenerational cohousing, living side by side with

Children learn to respect their elders and "everybody's seeing all of life," Durrett said. That includes "what the end game looks like," he said. Several residents of the Nevada City community have died at home, without going to a nursing home. Moving to cohousing is a

logical to have people of various ages together." She would be lonelier if she were living with other older people, she said, and suspects she'd hear too many people "complaining about their complaints." At Ecovillage at Ithaca, in upstate New York, residents range from a few months

sociologist, has lived at Ecovillage with her husband, Dick Franke, a retired anthropologist, since 2009. They live in a 1,600-square-foot house with two bedrooms and a study for each of them.

Chasin, 72, said she would find living in a retirement community alienating and prefers to be among people of all ages and physical conditions. She is a member of a committee on aging at Ecovillage.

"We want to find ways that people can remain here as they grow older and more infirm," she said. That could involve retrofitting homes and finding ways to notify people of medical emergencies, she said.

The cost of cohousing varies greatly depending on the region, Durrett said. In general, it is similar to what a two-bedroom condo would cost, he said. Many people make a down payment and pay a mortgage on their homes, he said.

There are a few ways to join a cohousing community. One is to participate in the formation of one, in which case people can influence how it is structured. But financing new construction can be hard, Rebecca Lane, executive director of the Cohousing

The best way to form a cohousing community "is to have a solid architect on board from the beginning, who knows the model and can assist in the entire process, including advising with financing," she said.

Obviously, it is simpler to find an existing community, Lane said. Cohousing is definitely not for everyone. Some people realize that "it's a lot of work living with a group of people and making decisions together," and they aren't willing to make that investment, said Bill Hartzell, board president of the Cohousing Association of the United States. Conflict is inevitable — most commonly it revolves around money, children and pets, he said. People may disagree about how pooled money should be spent, the disciplining of other people's children, or whether dogs should be able to run off-leash, for example. Residents may resolve disagreements among themselves, or sometimes mediators are brought in, he said. People do not need to be extroverts to thrive in cohousing. "One of my personalities is quite the hermit, but I also recognize that I can spiral too deeply into not being around people," said Dan Fallon, 67, who formerly worked as a psychologist in Chicago. He and his wife, Anna, bought their residence in a cohousing community called Manzanita Village in Prescott, Ariz., in 2003 and rented it out until they moved there in 2011.

Fallon said Manzanita Village was no retirement community.

"It's pretty wicked noisy around here sometimes with the kids that are running around," he said.

But Fallon said he preferred living among a range of generations. He said some of the older residents had recently helped some of the children build a fort in a ravine.

With cohousing, he said, it's comforting that "there are structured opportunities to get together and share what's going on in your life." □



Families on a playground in Ecovillage, a co-op community for all ages with common areas to share meals and partake in group activities, in Ithaca, N.Y.

(Heather Ainsworth/The New York Times)

people of all other ages, including singles, childless couples and families with children. Residents of cohousing make major decisions collectively, but these are not communes. Group meals and activities are optional, and members maintain separate residences. "You have a choice between privacy and community," said Charles Durrett, 57, an architect who has designed more than 50 cohousing communities, including the one where he lives in Nevada City, Calif. The community has 34 units, and out of around 100 residents, about 20 are age 55 to 95, he said.

Some communities that live by cohousing principles are for retirees only, and that is the best choice for some, Durrett said. Children can be quite raucous, he said, and sometimes people just want to spend their time in peace with like-minded friends and a nice glass of wine.

But other retirees prefer the energy and variety of cohousing, he said. The arrangement has value for younger residents, too:

way to avoid the isolation and depression that older people can face when they live alone, said Durrett. Cohousing residents are also more likely to check up on and care for their neighbors, he said.

old to 80-plus. Ecovillage has two communities of about 30 units each, with one more community in development. Legally, the communities are co-ops, and as the name implies, Ecovillage emphasizes the



Families at a home in Ecovillage, in Ithaca, N.Y. Some older retirees are planning to retire in planned communities like Ecovillage, instead of a communal environment that consists only of other retirees.

(Heather Ainsworth/The New York Times)

Meg Palley, 95, lives in a four-bedroom house in Nevada City that she shares with two care givers who receive reduced rent in return for services like driving and shopping. She said she chose intergenerational cohousing because "it's

environment by operating two organic farms and using solar energy. Like most cohousing communities, it includes common areas where people can share meals, and it offers many group activities.

Barbara Chasin, a retired

Association of the United States, said in an email.

"The failure rate is high for forming communities, though there is no data to describe this, as most failed forming groups disband and fade into the sunset," she said.